

Baker Hostetler

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June 14, 2012

Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20463

E. Mark Braden  
direct dial: 202.861.1504  
MBraden@bakerlaw.com

Attention: Daniel Petalas  
Associate General Counsel for Enforcement

MUR # 6594

Re: Complaint

Dear Sir:

Enclosed with this letter is a signed, sworn to and notarized complaint alleging violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (Act). The attached document recites facts that show specific violations of the Act and provides identification of named individuals who may have committed violations. The complaint provides the Federal Election Commission (Commission) with details regarding these violations. Violations include failure to comply with disclaimer requirements on messages authorized and/or financed by a candidate<sup>1</sup>, failure to disclose expenditures of coordinated communications<sup>2</sup> and other possible violations of the Act. The contact information and evidence included in the complaint should be of assistance to the Commission in its investigation.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



E. Mark Braden

Attachments: Original and 3 copies.

<sup>1</sup> 11 CFR 110.11(b)(1); 11 CFR 110.11(b)(2).

<sup>2</sup> 11 CFR 109.21; 11 CFR 109.23; 11 CFR 109.3(a) and (b).

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**Office of General Counsel  
Federal Election Commission  
999 E Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 30163**

**MUR # 6594**

**Complainants:**

**David Clark**

Santa Clara, UT 84765

Phone:

Home:

Email:

**Howard Wallack**

Park City, Utah 84060

Home Phone:

Email:

**Cherilyn Eagar**

999 Murray-Holladay Road Suite 202

Salt Lake City, Utah 84117

Cell Phone:

Email:

**John "Chuck" Williams**

Heber City, Utah 84032

Home Phone:

Email:

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2012 JUN 14 PM 3:07  
OFFICE OF GENERAL  
COUNSEL

FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION

## INTRODUCTION

An anonymous letter, lacking the appropriate disclaimer, was mailed to a select group of convention delegates within three days of the Utah Republican State Nominating Convention. This letter likely altered the results of the nomination process for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. At the Utah State Republican Nominating Convention, the delegates passed a motion requiring the Utah State Party Chairman Thomas Wright to conduct a "full" investigation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District candidate Milt Hanks' charges of conspiracy and election fraud relating to the letter which Mr. Hanks levied against four other candidates on the convention floor.

In Mr. Wright's official report, issued Tuesday, May 7, 2012, the Chairman stated that an inflammatory anonymous letter was mailed to select delegates just prior to the nominating convention in violation of Federal Election Commission (FEC) regulations. He called upon anyone who had evidence regarding the matter to file a complaint with the FEC.

A number of facts suggest that a conspiracy existed between two candidates, Milt Hanks and Chris Stewart, their campaigns and/or their agents, leading to the production and distribution of this anonymous letter.

The individuals submitting this complaint were candidates for the Republican nomination for Utah's 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. We are collectively submitting this complaint, alleging that violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (Act) occurred related to that 2012 Utah Republican Congressional nomination.

## BACKGROUND

### The Anonymous Letter and the Stewart Campaign Response Letter

An anonymous letter ("Anonymous Letter") without proper disclaimer and identification (as required by FEC regulations) was mailed to select delegates on April 18, 2012, four days prior to the Utah State Republican Nominating Convention held on April 21, 2012.  
**Exhibit A: Copy of Anonymous Letter and envelope.**

Recipients of the Anonymous Letter included: Delegate Lisa Black, \_\_\_\_\_, Tooele, Utah 84074; phone: \_\_\_\_\_; e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_, and Delegate John Smith, \_\_\_\_\_, West Valley City, Utah 84128; phone: \_\_\_\_\_; e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_.

Following the convention, during the week of May 7-12, 2012, a survey was conducted of 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District delegates on their knowledge and/or receipt of the Anonymous Letter and a "response letter" from Chris Stewart. Fifteen percent of State Delegates polled (30% responded) say they received the Anonymous Letter, and 68% did not. This number

shows the mailing likely targeted only "undecided" delegates. **Exhibit B: Independent Poll of State Delegates, Week of May 7, 2012.**

Cherilyn Eagar has personal knowledge, via a telephone conversation with Delegate John Smith that: 1) he received the Anonymous Letter sent to an incorrect address from what appears to be an outdated caucus attendee list. It was forwarded to his current 2012 delegate list address; 2) he did not receive the "Chris Stewart Letter," ("CS Letter"), the response to the Anonymous Letter, but Mr. Smith did receive mailers from all the other candidates at his current address; 3) Mr. Smith is on the Complainants' delegate lists at his current correct address; he did receive their mailings. **Exhibit C: Excerpt of the delegate databases "Smith" listings.**

Cherilyn Eagar believes that delegate Rick Raile may have more information about the origin of the Anonymous Letter and who was responsible for it. Rick Raile, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108; phone: ; e-mail:

Chris Stewart's supporter, McKay Christensen stated that: 1) he had received a phone call from his wife that the Anonymous Letter had arrived in their mailbox in Centerville, Utah at 10:00 am, April 19, 2012; 2) he notified the Stewart campaign who sent a volunteer/staff member to pick it up by 10:30 a.m., and the letter was delivered to the Stewart campaign headquarters in Farmington, Utah, at an estimated arrival time of 10:45-11:00 a.m., April 19, 2012. McKay Christensen, Centerville, Utah; phone: ; e-mail:

**Exhibit D: Salt Lake Tribune Paul Rolly Article:**

Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/54025363-90/stewart-letter-convention-email.html.csp?page=1>

**Exhibit E: Facebook screen shot comments about Anonymous Letter, Paul Rolly Article Comments (See Exhibit D Source).**

The Anonymous Letter envelope was post-marked at the Salt Lake City 841 post office on Wednesday, April 18, time stamped at 2 pm with a first-class postage stamp. The envelope had no return address. A response letter from the Stewart campaign (CS Letter), referencing the Anonymous Letter as "documents," was mailed to delegates on April 19, 2012, prior to the nominating convention held on April 21, 2012. **Exhibit F: Copy of the "CS Letter."**

The CS Letter envelope was marked at the Salt Lake City 841 post office on Thursday, April 19, 2012, time-stamped at 1:00 pm with a first-class postage stamp. The envelope had the Chris Stewart campaign's return address affixed. Travel time from Farmington, Utah to the Salt Lake City Post Office is approximately 30 minutes. The postal mark on the response letter mailed to nearly 1,000 delegates was time-stamped at the Salt Lake Post Office 841 at 1:00 p.m., April 19, 2012. The CS Letter was mailed to all, or nearly all, the 973 delegates in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District. The CS Letter was professionally printed on the campaign letterhead in color. There is no date on the CS Letter.

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If there were no advance knowledge of the need to craft a response letter, the campaign would have had to create the text and print 1,000 copies of the letters, folding, stuffing, sealing, and affixing first-class stamp and address label between 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Since the Anonymous Letter did not arrive at the campaign until approximately 10:45-11:00 a.m. It takes time to make a decision to respond and to draft the response. Assuming that drafting the response takes a minimum of 30 minutes, it might have been created by 11:30 a.m. Depending on where the letters were printed, that would add (at a minimum) another 30 minutes, making it Noon. Processing 973 letters for mailing takes time. It is highly unlikely that the Stewart campaign could have accomplished this feat. Volunteers would have been needed at campaign headquarters with one hour's notice and the letters delivered immediately to the Salt Lake Post Office 30 minutes away to arrive at the Post Office by 1 p.m. It is improbable the post office could have time-stamped the envelopes by 1:00 p.m., unless the letters were prepared in advance.

The time-stamps of these two letters, the Anonymous Letter and the CS Letter, are in such close proximity – 23 hours apart, the only reasonable conclusion is that the Stewart campaign and/or its agent(s) pre-planned both the Anonymous Letter and the CS Letter.

Additionally, the Stewart campaign sent an email to delegates with an identical message on April 20, 2012. There was no logical reason to wait to send the identical email the following day, on Friday, April 20, 2012, because of the urgent need to get the message out as soon as possible. This further indicates probable advanced-planning to coordinate with the receipt of the April 19, 2012 letter, due to reach the delegates on April 20, 2012.

#### **Suspicion of Conspiracy Between Two Candidates and/or their Agent/s**

Each Complainant denies having any prior knowledge of the existence of this Anonymous Letter until after select delegates who had received it contacted us. Cherilyn Eagar's first notification came on the afternoon of Thursday, April 19, 2012, by phone from a female delegate she did not know. The Complainants deny having any communication with each other regarding the Anonymous Letter or the CS Letter until after we had delivered our speeches on the convention floor Saturday, April 21, 2012.

However, on or about Tuesday, April 10, 2012, a rumor began through the Chris Stewart campaign that his opponents were desperate and planning to launch a negative campaign to damage Mr. Stewart and that documents would be received containing false information about him. The Stewart campaign started this rumor, as well as an additional rumor that the candidates had conspired against them with an "ABC Club" (Anyone but Chris) and that "ABC buttons" would be worn at the convention. Chris Stewart and/or his agent/s sent out an email via the Utah State Republican Party email list claiming the complainants were responsible for this negative campaign. This email communication breached the decorum rules of candidate emails. **Exhibit H: Copy of Utah Republican Party email dated April 10, 2012 and sent April 13, 2012.**

Cherilyn Eagar and her Communications Director Loe Rech, also a 2<sup>nd</sup> District State Delegate never received the Stewart campaign's e-mail, so a retraction or rebuttal could not

be sought in advance of the convention. Cherilyn Eagar did not receive her emails sent by the Utah State Republican Party, although she received the other candidates' emails. The Party never corrected it, therefore, Mrs. Rech did not see the email dated April 10, 2012 from the Stewart campaign. Witness: \_\_\_\_\_, Salt Lake City, Utah 84105; phone: \_\_\_\_\_; e-mail: [lee@BTCommunications.com](mailto:lee@BTCommunications.com).

### **Glenn Beck Event**

Glenn Beck and candidate Chris Stewart have a business relationship writing and selling books together. Mr. Beck came to Utah and held an event for Mr. Stewart at which Mr. Stewart agreed he would not raise campaign funds. However, campaign contributions were solicited and received. Mr. Beck endorsed Chris Stewart. In an April 20<sup>th</sup> radio interview with Glenn Beck, only one day before the nominating convention, Chris Stewart and Mr. Beck falsely claim that there is "a new website out" saying "horrible, horrible things" about Chris Stewart that was put together by an "Anyone But Chris Committee," of 3 or 4 opposing candidates who are "coming against" Stewart, and that these candidates have made ABC buttons. Exhibit I: Screen shot of Stewart-Beck event from Stewart website. Exhibit J: Transcript of 4/20/2012 Radio Show. Source: <http://www.glennbeck.com/content/show/2012-04-20/>

Pre- and post-convention, KSL radio talk show host Doug Wright told his audience that he had been good friends with Chris Stewart for 10 years. His listening audience knows that he is from Eureka and is also friends with Eureka Mayor Milt Hanks. Post-convention, Mr. Wright said that 10 days earlier he had "heard about something" that was "represented to me as being kind of the 'ABC Club,' the Anybody But Chris Club." This serves as further proof that the origin of the term "ABC Club" came from the Hanks and Stewart campaigns and that they collaborated.

However, the only campaigns of the eleven in the 2<sup>nd</sup> congressional district to use the term "ABC Club" (or "group") were the Chris Stewart and the Milt Hanks campaigns. The first time the other candidates heard this term used was during Hanks' April 21st convention speech. Candidate Jason Buck denies the news report that claims Mr. Buck was asked to join the "ABC Club" prior to the convention, but that he "declined." Mr. Buck says this never happened and that he never heard a word about the ABC Club before Hanks' April 21, 2012 speech. Witnesses included: Candidate Jason Buck, 32 West 200 South, Suite 508, Salt Lake City, Utah 84101; phone: \_\_\_\_\_; Email: \_\_\_\_\_; Stefani Williams, Chuck Williams' wife, Complainant Cherilyn Eagar, via phone conversation.

### **Milt Hanks Campaign**

The Hanks campaign was a sham. He was a strong supporter of Chris Stewart and was a close friend to Chris Stewart's campaign staff member Connie Smith. As early as February 2012, approximately three weeks before he declared his candidacy for U.S. Congress in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District of Utah, Mr. Hanks clearly stated his strong support for candidate Chris Stewart and made negative and disparaging remarks about four candidates:

Dave Clark, Cheryllyn Eagar, Howard Wallack and Chuck Williams. Witness:

; UT 84532; phone:

Email:

Mr. Hanks filed a statement of candidacy with the Federal Election Commission on February 24, 2012. Source: FEC Candidate Summary

<http://www.fec.gov/data/CandidateSummary.do?format=html>

Mr. Hanks filed a Utah declaration of candidacy on the final day of filing, March 15, 2012, and paid the required \$435 filing fee to the State of Utah Lieutenant Governor's office.

**Exhibit K: Copy of Utah Declaration of Candidacy, Milt Hanks**

Mr. Hanks attended only a handful of campaign events over the course of the campaign. He did not have yard signs or literature other than a one-page printed flyer. He did not hold his own events to meet delegates. Mr. Hanks had knowledge of this "ABC Club" rumor through his communications with the Stewart campaign, most likely through his close friend and Stewart campaign staffer, Connie Smith, who is also the Juab County Republican Party Chairman, the county where Mr. Hanks lives. Mr. Hanks had prior knowledge of the Anonymous Letter which likely may have been e-mailed to him by Mrs. Smith and/or other agent(s) of the Stewart campaign on April 18 or April 19, 2012. Mr. Hanks' story, as reported in the official Republican Party investigation, is that an unknown woman approached him in a Provo Mall Friday afternoon, April 20, 2012, recognized him as Milt Hanks and gave him a copy of the Anonymous Letter. Mr. Hanks's position is that he then went home, wrote and memorized a convention speech for the next day, attacking the Complainants for the letter. Mr. Hanks's explanation lacks any credibility. **Exhibit N:**

**Salt Lake Tribune Article about Milt Hanks.**

Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/54098479-90/hanks-eureka-mayor-town.html.csp>

The more logical explanation is that Mr. Hanks and the Stewart campaign and/or its agent(s) assisted him and set him up to deliver the "conspiracy speech." Before the speeches began, Casey Jackson, a staff member of Howard Wallack's campaign, overheard Stewart supporters who were wearing lime green t-shirts, say they knew about "a speech that was going to blow everyone away." Witness:

#52, St. George, Utah 84770; phone:

Joe DeBose, Cheryllyn Eagar's campaign manager, saw Mr. Hanks sitting next to Mr. Stewart in the "holding area" to the side of the stage prior to Mr. Stewart's speech where they were observed in positive conversation. Witness: ; phone: ; e-mail:

Brian Chapman, Chuck Williams' campaign manager also saw Mr. Hanks and Mr. Stewart were sitting together in the "holding area" to the side of the stage prior to the candidate speeches were they were observed in positive conversation. Witness:

; Suite 204, Provo, Utah 84606; phone:

; e-mail:

On Saturday, April 21, 2012, at the state convention during his nominating speech, Hanks and Randy Minson, Chris Stewart's campaign consultant, accused Dave Clark, Cheryl Egar, Howard Wallack and Chuck Williams by name, of having conspired to send the Anonymous Letter to selected delegates, they were responsible for it and had organized the "ABC Club" and that the complainants had asked Hanks to join them to defeat Mr. Stewart.

The Complainants, each specifically, deny this allegation and allege that candidate Hanks and/or candidate Chris Stewart, their campaigns and/or agents of their campaigns probably created the "Anyone but Chris" (ABC) Club and campaign and that they were likely responsible for the Anonymous Letter that failed to have the appropriate identification/disclaimer affixed, a violation of Federal Election Law.

Mr. Hanks' speech drew the strongest applause and cheers of all the speeches and he received a standing ovation from Stewart's supporters wearing lime green t-shirts sitting, against the rules, in the delegate section. Mr. Hanks' speech slandered the four candidates filing this complaint, altered the first round of balloting and ultimately likely altered the outcome of the election. The results of the first round voting showed Mr. Hanks, who had previously had no support in pre-convention polls, now in third place. The slandered candidates had no opportunity for rebuttal during the convention and there was mass confusion among the delegates. Utah State Delegate Steve Kelley made a motion to request that Chairman Thomas Wright conduct a full investigation of what happened. The motion passed.

On Wednesday, April 25, 2012, Thomas Wright, Chairman of the Utah Republican Party conducted an investigation in the presence of the Utah Republican Party Executive Director Ivan DuBois, but without two executive committee members who had requested to be present (Vice Chair Lowell Nelson and Secretary Drew Chamberlain) and also without Treasurer Mike McCauley.

The Utah Party's investigation was limited, leaving many gaps and unanswered questions, principally the origin of the Anonymous Letter.

Mr. Wright announced on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, his findings that Mr. Hanks' had no proof to make the claims he made in his speech. Chairman Wright asked for anyone who knew of the origin of the Anonymous Letter to step forward and provide that information and file an FEC complaint.

**Exhibit L: Copy of URP Investigation Email and Report**

**Exhibit M: News Sources Surrounding 2012 Convention**

**GOP probe finds no wrongdoing in 2nd District chaos**

**Investigations Finds No Shady Dealing in Utah GOP 2nd District Race**

**GOP chairman finds Eureka mayor's charges baseless**



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**Report: No 'backroom dealing' involved in GOP convention controversy**

**Utah GOP Report on Second District Shenanigans**

**GOP report: 'Backroom dealing' not to blame for Utah convention controversy**

**St. George Article**

**Tim Stewart**

In 2010, Chris Stewart's brother Tim Stewart was found to be linked to a similar anonymous mailer intended to defame former Utah Senator Bob Bennett's opponent, now Senator Mike Lee, a few days prior to the 2010 State Nominating Convention. **Exhibit O: News articles.** Sources: [http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci\\_15297267](http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_15297267), <http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/vernon/100614>.

Tim Stewart's lobbying firm *American Capitol Group* is also the lobbying firm for his brother Chris Stewart's company *Shipley Group*. **Exhibit P: American Capitol Group website; Open Secrets Website.** Sources: <http://www.americancapitolgroup.com/professionals.html>, <http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientsum.php?id=D000063386&year=2010>, <http://www.recovery.gov/Transparency/RecipientReportedData/Pages/Recipient.aspx?duns=969867993>

Tim Stewart was fined for a similar anonymous strategic mailer that was sent in the same timeframe and manner before the 2010 convention, while working as an agent for the incumbent candidate Senator Bob Bennett. On April 23, 2012, news accounts reported that Tim Stewart was found guilty of election fraud and fined \$1,400 for not properly disclosing the appropriate identification on the mailer. **Exhibit Q: News accounts related to FEC investigation of Tim Stewart.**

Sources: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865554802/FEC-resolves-2010-Temple-mailer-case.html>

<http://www.ksl.com/?nid=960&sid=20169593>

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/53998360-90/agreement-behind-bennett-campaign.html.csp>

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/53794889-90/lee-stewart-campaign-chris.html.csp>

In 2010, Randy Minson, Chris Stewart's campaign consultant, was under a Davis County Attorney Office investigation for a similar campaign strategy to frame an innocent candidate in a County Sheriff's race between the winner Todd Richardson, who he represented, and Solomon Oberg. It was alleged that Randy Minson sent out a slanderous email to the delegates just days prior to the Davis County Nominating Convention, which altered the outcome of that election. An investigation took place, and all but one computer

was seized. The case was dismissed as the evidence could not be found on the seized computers. **Exhibit R: News article regarding Davis County Sheriff election and Minson tactics.**

**Online Sources:**

<http://www.standard.net/topics/politics/2010/04/09/weber-seizes-computers-campaign-vendor-davis-candidate-investigated-over->

<http://www.standard.net/topics/politics/2010/05/29/criminal-investigation-independent-political-consultant-expands-davis-cou>

Witnesses: Utah State Representative Curt Oda, PO Box 824 Clearfield, UT 84089; Phone: 801-773-9796; Email: [coda@le.utah.gov](mailto:coda@le.utah.gov); Dalane England, Bountiful, Utah 84010; Phone: ; Email: ; Mr. Stewart's campaign manager, Brian Steed, may have knowledge of this Anonymous Letter's origin, or of the scheme itself. (See Exhibit H.) Carl Downing, Howard Wallack's consultant stood next to Mr. Steed when Mr. Stewart won the nomination and said, "I'm quitting." Carl asked what he meant because his candidate had just won. Mr. Steed replied emotionally, "I'm quitting. We didn't have to win it this way. We didn't have to win it this way." Then he walked away.

Witnesses: Brian Steed, , Logan, UT 84322; Phone: ; Email: [Brian.Steed@usu.edu](mailto:Brian.Steed@usu.edu); Carl Downing, , Farmington, UT 84025; Phone: ; Cell: ; Email: ;

Mr. Hanks' consultant, Kelly Casaday, owner of advertising and consulting firm *Letter 23*, was Mr. Hanks' consultant. **Exhibit S: Article on Mr. Casaday's connection to Mr. Hanks.**

<http://www.sltrib.com/csp/cms/sites/sltrib/pages/printerfriendly.csp?id=53893516>

The Complainants allege that these closely-connected consultants, and the numerous similarities in the prior FEC violation, are more than coincidental, and that they lead logically to the conclusion that the illegal Anonymous Letter and the strategy employed was created and/or executed by the Stewart campaign and/or its agent(s), including consultant Randy Minson and/or his agent(s), Tim Stewart and/or his agent(s), and that it is probable that Milt Hanks collaborated with, was asked to participate in, or had knowledge of this scheme in advance of the State Nominating Convention on April 21, 2012.

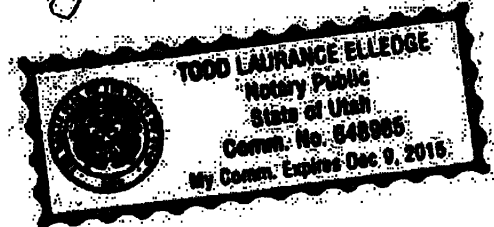
## **CONCLUSION**

The Complainants request an expedited FEC investigation to determine who is responsible for the Anonymous Letter and to execute the appropriate fine/s for violating the Federal Election Campaign Act.

Signed and sworn to before the undersigned, under penalty of perjury:

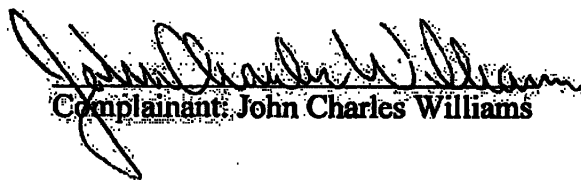
  
Complainant: Cherilyn Eager

May 14, 2012  
Date:



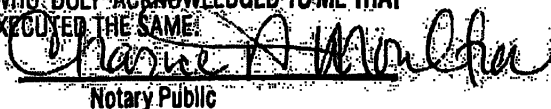
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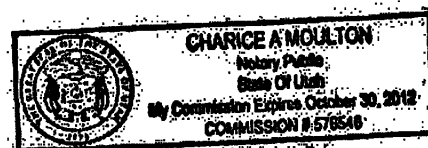
Signed and sworn to before the undersigned, under penalty of perjury:

  
Complainant: John Charles Williams

15 May 2012  
Date

STATE OF UTAH: Wasatch  
COUNTY OF: Wasatch  
ON THE 15 DAY OF May 2015  
PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME: John  
Charles Williams SIGNER(S) OF THE ABOVE  
INSTRUMENT, WHO DULY ACKNOWLEDGED TO ME THAT  
HE/SHE/THEY EXECUTED THE SAME

  
Notary Public



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Signed and sworn to before the undersigned, under penalty of perjury.

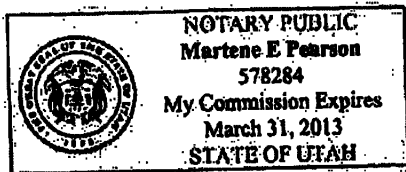
David Clark  
Complainant David Clark

6/11/12  
Date

State of Utah

County of Washington

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 11th day of June, 2012.



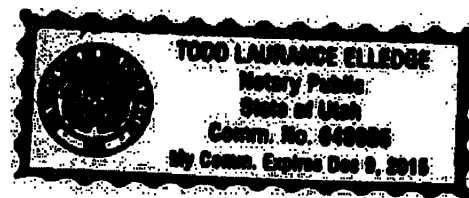
Martene E. Pearson  
Notary Public

13044340138

Signed and sworn to before the undersigned, under penalty of perjury:

  
Complainant Howard Wallack

5/14/12  
Date



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**FEC Complaint  
List of Supporting Documents**

**Exhibit A: Copy of Anonymous Letter and envelope**

**Exhibit B:**

**Exhibit C:**

**Exhibit D: *Salt Lake Tribune* Paul Rolly Article**

Source: <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/54025363-90/stewart-letter-convention-email.html.csp?page=1>

**Exhibit E: Facebook screen shot comments about Anonymous Letter**

**Exhibit F:**

**Exhibit G:**

**Exhibit H:**

**Exhibit I: Copy of Utah Declaration of Candidacy, Milt Hanks**

Source: FEC Candidate Summary

<http://www.fec.gov/data/CandidateSummary.do?format=html>

**Exhibit J: Screen shot of Stewart-Beck event from Stewart website**

**Exhibit K: Transcript of 4/20/2012 Beck Radio Show**

Source: <http://www.glennbeck.com/content/show/2012-04-20/> **Exhibit L: Copy of URP Investigation Email and Report**

**Exhibit L:**

**Exhibit M: News Sources Surrounding 2012 Convention**

GOP probe finds no wrongdoing in 2nd District chaos

Investigations Finds No Shady Dealing in Utah GOP 2nd District Race

GOP chairman finds Eureka mayor's charges baseless

Report: No 'backroom dealing' involved in GOP convention controversy

Utah GOP Report on Second District Shenanigans

GOP report: 'Backroom dealing' not to blame for Utah convention controversy

St. George Article

**Exhibit N: Salt Lake Tribune Article about Milt Hanks**

Source: <https://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/54098479-90/hanks-eureka-mayor-town.html.csp>

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**Exhibit O: News articles**

**Sources:**

[http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci\\_15297267](http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_15297267)

<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/vernon/100614>

**Exhibit P: American Capitol Group website; Open Secrets Website**

**Sources:**

<http://www.americancapitolgroup.com/professionals.html>

<http://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/clientsum.php?id=D0000063386&year=2010>

<http://www.recovery.gov/Transparency/RecipientReportedData/Pages/Recipient.aspx?duns=969867993>

**Exhibit Q: News accounts related to FEC investigation of Tim Stewart**

**Sources:**

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865554802/FEC-resolves-2010-Temple-mailer-case.html>

<http://www.ksl.com/?nid=960&sid=20169593>

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/53998360-90/agreement-behind-bennett-campaign.html.csp>

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/53794889-90/lee-stewart-campaign-chris.html.csp>

**Exhibit R: News article regarding Davis County Sheriff election and Minson tactics.**

**Online Sources:**

<http://www.standard.net/topics/politics/2010/04/09/weber-seizes-computers-campaign-vendor-davis-candidate-investigated-over>

<http://www.standard.net/topics/politics/2010/05/29/criminal-investigation-independent-political-consultant-expands-davis-cou>

**Exhibit S: Article on Mr. Casaday's connection to Mr. Hanks**

**Source:**

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/cougars/54035077-90/hatch-utah-freedom-path.html.csp>

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**Why you should not vote for Chris Stewart...**  
**It comes down to Integrity**

First off let me say, there are steps you should take in choosing the best candidate for office. Check voting records, check conflicts of interest, and make sure they have been thoroughly vetted. Visit websites and look into their personal and company history.

I have done that, and I found some very concerning things regarding at least one candidate for the 2<sup>nd</sup> congressional district.

Chris Stewart has always been my 2<sup>nd</sup> choice until I learned a couple things about him that made me question his honesty, integrity, and real motives for running for congress.

I am certain that his campaign will react to this letter by crying foul, alleging 'negative campaigning' to divert attention and change the subject. But everything you will read below is documented either in newspapers or public disclosure documents.

So despite the complaining, just ask him the simple question, "Are the allegations not true?"

**Hidden Chris Stewart Fact #1:**

**Chris Stewart's connection to the attack on Mike Lee**

Two years ago, Utah saw the worst case of "Chicago-style politics" in state election history.

The infamous "Temple Mailer" was sent to delegates in the 11<sup>th</sup> hour before the 2010 State Convention and was designed to hurt Mike Lee at convention. And it worked. Senator Lee said that were it not for the Temple Mailer, he would have received 60% of the vote at convention and avoided a costly primary race.

Lee called the piece "thuggish, Chicago-style tactics," and he filed a complaint with the FEC (Federal Elections Commission) because the group isn't registered and had not disclosed its financing.

A poll showed that delegates were offended by the use of religion in the race and some turned away from Mike Lee, who believes he may have won the nomination outright that day instead of having to go into a primary contest with Tim Bridgewater.

<http://www.strib.com/strib/politics/51046134-90/lee-bennett-mailer-stewart.html.csp>

Why do 2012 delegates need to know who was behind the Temple Mailer?

First and foremost, it's a matter of honesty and integrity. At first the group behind the mailer tried to hide who was involved, which is illegal. Once the media revealed the involvement of a lobbyist with close ties to Bennett, that lobbyist refused to apologize and refused to say who else was involved. In fact, he called the mail piece "brilliant".

Who was this political thug? Chris Stewart's employee and brother, Tim Stewart. Why should Chris be held accountable for his brother's indiscretions? At the time Tim Stewart admitted there were others involved, but refused to say who. But Tim was and still is part of Chris Stewart's lobbying firm, The Shipley Group, which includes other former members of Senator Bennett's staff. It is laughable to think that Chris Stewart didn't at least know about it.

By the way, did Chris ever tell you that he is a lobbyist?

Me neither. He claims to be an author, a military hero and many other things, but he fails to disclose that he heads a lobby shop that solicited and received millions of dollars in pork spending as well as Obama stimulus money.

I'll bet he never mentioned that to you.

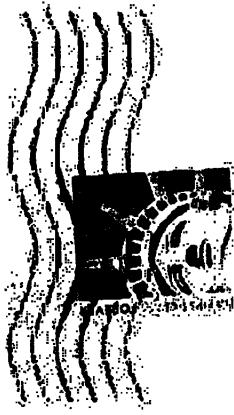
Secondly, Chris Stewart's involvement in the Temple Mailer goes to the core of what we want from our representatives in Washington.

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# Rolly: Plot deepens in GOP Convention bombshell

By Paul Rolly, Tribune Columnist

First Published May 01 2012 03:38 pm • Last Updated May 01 2012 11:45 pm

The plot thickens in the 2nd Congressional District debacle at the recent Republican State Convention. A candidate who had hardly campaigned dropped an 11th hour bomb during his speech, maligning several other candidates — a violation of convention rules — and making his good friend Chris Stewart look like a victim of a cabal.

The candidates named in the so-called plot were shaken and confused and coalesced behind one candidate to prevent what they sensed was a clever ploy to steal the convention nomination.

That backfired and Stewart got the requisite 60 percent of the delegate vote to avoid a primary and become the party's nominee.

But the anonymous anti-Stewart letter, held up by Milt Hanks during his speech as evidence of a conspiracy, remains a mystery. The Republican Party has been trying to track it down and so far has confirmed that only two delegates received it.

Some delegates received a follow-up letter before the convention from the Stewart campaign denouncing the negative letter and promising to stay on a positive message.

Photos



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The anonymous letter was postmarked April 18. The follow-up letter from the Stewart campaign was postmarked April 19. Political professionals tell me it would be virtually impossible to turn a mailer around that quickly unless those who did it already knew the first letter was about to be mailed and had something prepared in advance.

One letter recipient had moved since 2010, when he also was a state delegate. The negative letter and response letter were sent to his 2010 address, then forwarded to his 2012 address, even though his 2012 address was the one listed on the current delegate lists.

**Coincidental typo** » I wrote in my Sunday column about Mormon code that seemed to emanate from the Stewart campaign at the convention, with some of the other candidates painted as having a cabal (or in Mormon teachings, a "secret combination") and some Stewart supporters chanting "The prophecy has been fulfilled" as Stewart was shown to be a martyr. The coup d'état was administered when Stewart told the delegates the truth would be confirmed to them — Mormon code, I am told, referring to the Holy Ghost.

That makes two typos printed on the agendas of the Millard County and Davis County convention programs intriguing.

story continues below

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On the agendas of speakers, Chris Stewart was listed as "Christ Stewart."

**A pattern developing »** I wrote recently about Bill Hooper, who had sent an email in March, 2011, to Senate President Michael Waddoups, R-Taylorsville, asking him to vote to repeal HB477, the legislation that gutted Utah's open records act. He received a confirmation that his email had been opened in April 2012 — 13 months later.

Then came Cheri Gruenbeck who also sent Waddoups an email urging the bill's repeal in March, 2011. She too, received a confirmation that her email was opened — 13 months later.

Now comes John Baun. You know the story. He sent an email urging the repeal in March 2011, and received a confirmation recently it had been opened — 13 months later. But his email didn't even need to be opened for the Senate to get the message. The subject line read: "HB477 — REPEAL IT!!!"

**VIP breaches »** It seems that nobody is immune from the massive cyber attack on Utah health records that compromised the personal information of more than 280,000 Utahns.

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The more I think about this the more support I put towards Chris. I was supporting Dave Clark and was so excited. I believed he would make it to a primary and win. He joined up with the circus and had gull written all over his face. I was so mad, as someone who gave money and time. Dave would be in the primary right now and probably winning it, if he would have stayed clear of all this stuff. Dave lost this race by making the decisions he made, along with a lot of respect.

1 week ago

Like Reply


**SorenK**

Rolly just makes stuff up, doesn't he? I was at the convention and his account of what happened is just flat out wrong. I also personally know of individuals who received the attack letter. Where in the world does he get his information? Does he even check his facts before publishing?

The sad thing is that there is a cadre of Trib readers who believe his lies and misinformation. I can't tell what's worse, that Rolly writes such dishonest fluff or that so many people want to believe the lies he tells about fellow Utahns.

1 week ago

Like Reply


**samenes**

We all know the story about blind men describing an elephant. SorenK - where were you in the hall. What group of delegates were around you. Only if you were omnipotent would you be able to describe everything said and done.

1 week ago In reply to SorenK

Like Reply


**MrsDogood**

Maybe you should have stayed awake? Everything mentioned in this article has been documented on local television footage that was aired.

1 week ago In reply to SorenK 2 Likes

Like Reply


**Col12**

Mrs. Dog-ood. I was also at the convention and did not hear any chanting. I don't believe you could provide any proof either. I am betting on SorenK winning that 100 bucks. That is just stupid. Rolly made all this stuff up. I was there supporting Clark and was excited for him, until he joined forces with all those screw ups and lost his support. He lost that thing himself.

1 week ago In reply to MrsDogood

Like Reply


**SorenK**

That is a lie. No one chanted "the prophecy is fulfilled." No one. I'll pay you \$100 dollars if you can show me footage.

1 week ago In reply to MrsDogood

Like Reply


**John**

Nobody cares about this except ankle-biting Leftists such as Paul Rolly. Best of luck, Chris Stewart.

1 week ago 2 Likes

Like Reply


**Spicy\_McHaggis**

"The prophecy has been fulfilled":  
Mormon republicans, you are totally normal.

1 week ago 3 Likes

Like Reply


**Madame\_Sillette**

Not longer are the GOP sharks just cannibalizing each other, they're now doing it in a frenzied state.

1 week ago 5 Likes

Like Reply


**John**


Care to place a wager on the outcome of the race? Methinks there will be plenty of support to get Chris Stewart elected.

1 week ago In reply to Madame\_Silento

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McKay Christensen

I am a state delegate and I received the letter at 10 am on Thursday morning. It was in the hands of the Stewart campaign by 10:30 am and I watched them put together their response and put it out to the delegates. I was sitting in the middle of all of the confusion at convention and at no time did any delegates or volunteers shout "the prophecy has been fulfilled". The only thing that was shouted from my area was "let him speak" Any questions give me a call...I love the Facebook reporting...

1 week ago 4 Likes

Like Reply

contplan

I was at the convention the entire time and I never once heard anyone chant "The prophecy has been fulfilled" and no one mentioned anything that had anything to do with religion and Stewart's speech surely said nothing about that. I don't know why Rolly keeps talking about that but it's very obvious he was not even at the convention.

1 week ago 4 Likes

Like Reply



Dear Friends,

During the last day or so, anonymous documents have been sent to each delegate personally attacking me and my campaign. The outlandish charges contained in these documents are unworthy of a response, other than to say that *they are not true*.

These sort of shadowy and dishonest attacks are beneath the people of Utah. I have no doubt that delegates will see these desperate and false charges for what they truly are.

I had hoped the candidates in this race would avoid resorting to smear campaigns. But unfortunately, some have decided to take the low road.

However, I want you to know that I'm going to stay positive and concentrate on the real issues. And let's remember what's at stake here. We are in a fight to save the soul of our nation. That is what I intend to focus on. And...isn't that what you would expect from a leader.

Sincerely,

Chris Stewart

13044340149



13044340150



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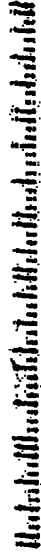
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2012  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

of

MILTON RAY HANKS  
(Print name exactly as it is to be printed on the official ballot. No amendments or modifications after March 15, 2012)

for the office of United States Representative for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District

STATE OF UTAH

County of SALT LAKE }

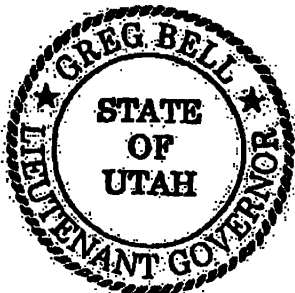
I, Milton Ray Hanks, declare my intention of becoming a candidate for the office of United States Representative for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District as a candidate for the REPUBLICAN party. I do solemnly swear that: I will meet the qualifications to hold the office, both legally and constitutionally, if selected; I reside at 27 EAST MAIN in the City of or Town of, EUREKA, Utah, Zip Code 84628, Phone No. 425-433-2253; I will not knowingly violate any law governing campaigns and elections. The mailing address that I designate for receiving official election notices is P.O. BOX 287, EUREKA, UTAH 84628.

M.H.HANKS@CONGRESS.ORG m.hanks@congress.com  
E-mail address Website

[Signature]  
Signature of Candidate (Must be signed in the presence of the filing officer)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this MAR. 15, 2012  
(month/day/year)

[Signature]  
(Officer qualified to administer oaths)



(Seal)

Lieutenant Governor Mar 2012

Received

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Lieutenant Governor

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2012  
STATE OF UTAH

PLEDGE OF  
FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES  
(UCA § 20A-9-206)

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play which every candidate for public office in the State of Utah has a moral obligation to observe and uphold, in order that, after vigorously contested but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their right to a free election, and that the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

**THEREFORE:**

I SHALL conduct my campaign openly and publicly, discussing the issues as I see them, presenting my record and policies with sincerity and frankness, and criticizing, without fear or favor, the record and policies of my opponents that I believe merit criticism.

I SHALL NOT use nor shall I permit the use of scurrilous attacks on any candidate or the candidate's immediate family. I shall not participate in or nor shall I permit the use of defamation, libel, or slander against any candidate or the candidate's immediate family. I shall not participate in nor shall I permit the use of any other criticism of any candidate or the candidate's immediate family that I do not believe to be truthful, provable, and relevant to my campaign.

I SHALL NOT use nor shall I permit the use of any practice that tends to corrupt or undermine our American system of free elections, or that hinders or prevents the free expression of the will of the voters, including practices intended to hinder or prevent any eligible person from registering to vote or voting.

I SHALL NOT coerce election help or campaign contributions for myself or for any other candidate from my employees or volunteers.

I SHALL immediately and publicly repudiate support deriving from any individual or group which resorts, on behalf of my candidacy or in opposition to that of an opponent, to methods in violation of the letter or spirit of this pledge. I shall accept responsibility to take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this pledge or the laws governing elections.

I SHALL defend and uphold the right of every qualified American voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process.

I, the undersigned, candidate for election to public office in the State of Utah, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct my campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Name: Milton R. Hanks Office: 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional Dist.  
Signature: [Signature] Date: 15 MARCH 2012

\*This is a voluntary pledge. Candidates are not required to sign this pledge of fair campaign practices.

\*This document is considered a public record and will be retained for public inspection until 30 days following the election.

# QUALIFICATION FOR CANDIDATE FILING DECLARATION

(Utah Code Section 20A-9-201)

Please initial:

*[Signature]* The filing officer read the constitutional and statutory requirements as listed below to me, and I meet those qualifications.

*[Signature]* I understand that my name will appear on the ballot as it is printed on this declaration of candidacy, and that I may not make any amendments or modifications after March 15, 2012.

*[Signature]* I have received a copy of Section 20A-7-801 regarding the Statewide Electronic Voter Information Website Program and its applicable deadline.

*[Signature]* I have received a copy of the pledge of fair campaign practices, and I understand that signing this pledge is voluntary.

*[Signature]*  
Signature of Candidate

*15 Apr 12*  
Date

*[Signature]*  
Signature of Filing Officer

*Mar 15, 2012*  
Date

## QUALIFICATIONS

Before the filing officer accepts any declaration of candidacy, the filing officer shall read to the candidate the constitutional and statutory requirements for candidacy, and the candidate shall state whether he/she fulfills the requirements. If the candidate indicates that he/she does not qualify, the filing officer shall decline his/her declaration of candidacy. (Utah Code Section 20A-9-201, 202)

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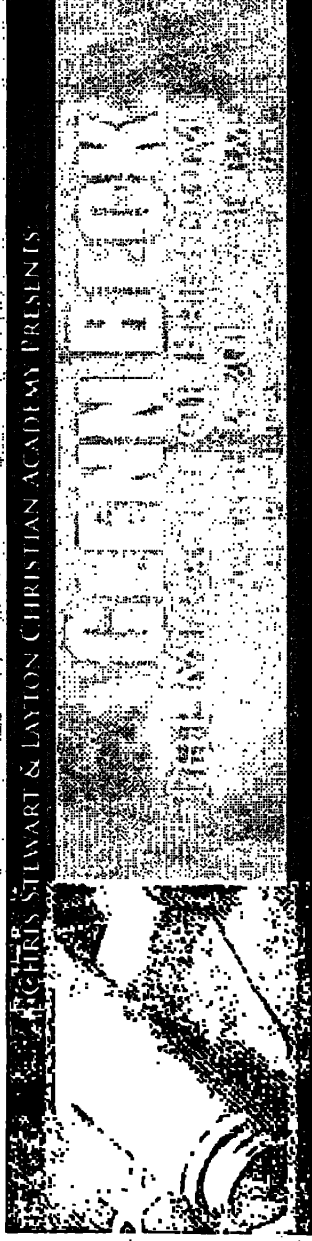
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Reserve tickets for the Miracle of Freedom Rally Featuring Glenn Beck and Chris Stewart on Friday March 2, 2012 at 7:30 p.m at the Layton Christian Academy in Layton, UT. The evening will also feature special musical performances by Hilary Weeks. Tickets are free, however there is limited seating so they are on a first come first serve basis.

Donations to the campaign would be appreciated and will be collected at the end of the event.

Click [here](#) to reserve your ticket!

**Glenn Beck Radio Show****April 20 2012**<http://www.glennbeck.com/content/show/2012-04-20/>**About the 19:00 mark, second hour segment****[excerpt]**

GB: Could you please....when we were driving in the car...we're at KFVY today in Phoenix and we we're driving in together and we were reading a story about you and there is a new website out, you were an Air Force pilot but you also hold the air speed record or the... what is it?

Stewart: Yea, it's the world's record for the fastest non-stop flight around the world.

GB: Ok, you were the pilot in that?

Stewart: I was.

GB: In the Air Force?

Stewart: In the Air Force, yep.

GB: In a plane?

Stewart: In a Airplane, yea.

GB: And this website is saying that you lied about that, right?

Stewart: "Yea, kinda silly. It's easily verifiable I mean look, it wasn't me obviously, there was me, there was another pilot, there was other crew members, there was another aircraft involved, but we won what they call the MacKay Trophy which is for the most significant aerial achievement for the year and we set the world's speed record and um....

GB: Were you the commanding officer on that flight?

Stewart: I was the Project Officer for it, I'm the one who came up with the idea and the one who laid the foundation and ground work for it...again with an enormous amount of help from other people, but there was a senior ..a more senior ranking officer on the flight, um so generally the rank in matters according to the military

GB: Were you in the left seat or the right seat?

Stewart: In the B-1 you there were two instructor pilots...the other fellow was an instructor pilot and I was an instructor pilot and in the B-1 you can seat in the left seat or the right seat it matters not.

GB: It matters not? Well I'm sorry I know we were going all 'Shakespearean.' What doth hath you say...so um .. you were in B-1s...is that the stealth? The B-1 Bomber?

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Stewart: No, no. The Stealth is kind of like a big black bat kind of thing. This looks like...

GB: I know what it looks like...isn't that the B-1B... the B-1 Bomber?

Stewart: Yea the B-1 looks like a big fighter. It is 'stealthy' but its not when you say 'Stealth' a lot of people uh, yea.

GB: Oh alright.. OK. So ..wow. What was that like? I'll talk to you some more another time. Ok they got you on that...boy they slammed you on that one.

Stewart: Yea

GB: They are also saying that you are um ... I mean just horrible, horrible things. In fact is it true that they have put together a committee because the caucus, or what ever you call it in Utah, is happening Saturday.....

Stewart: Right

GB: You are way ahead in the polls. How many people are coming against you?

Stewart: Oh the other candidates I guess there are three or four of them.

GB: And have they really put together buttons that say 'ABC' on them?

Stewart: Yea, that's what I heard. We haven't seen them but yea that's what we've been told.

GB: Which is "Anybody But Chris"?

Stewart: 'Anyone But Chris', yea.

GB: 'Anyone But Chris,' Ok.

Stewart: Yea, I guess... well that opens the door to a lot of people ...anyone but Chris.

GB: What have you learned through this process... like... maybe you want to come to work for me and you don't want to go with this slime tank.....

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(Courtesy Photo) Howard Wallack, a defeated candidate for the 2nd Congressional District Republican nomination isn't satisfied with a party investigation that says there was no wrongdoing in a convention process marred by last-minute accusations and slurs.

## GOP probe finds no wrongdoing in 2nd District chaos

State's top Republican finds that there were no plots or conspiracies to smear Chris Stewart.

By Robert Gehrke | The Salt Lake Tribune  
First Published May 08, 2012 11:44 am • Last Updated May 08, 2012 10:10 pm

A two-week investigation by the Utah Republican Party into a chaotic eruption at the party's state convention found no evidence of laws broken in the contentious 2nd Congressional District race and no indication of plots or conspiracies among candidates.

But the report, sent to 2nd District delegates Tuesday, leaves "unanswered questions" for at least one of the candidates, who remains convinced the contest was anything but pristine.



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MOBILE CAR lot of strange things that have happened. I have a lot of questions about and hopefully the answers will come," said Howard Wallack, one of the candidates.

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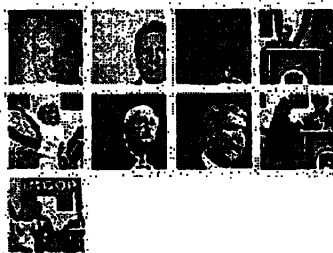
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going to walk away with it to my supporters and the people who helped my campaign ... to try to get to the bottom of this.

The report by Utah Republican Party Chairman Thomas Wright essentially clears any of the campaigns of wrongdoing, although it scolds one, Eureka Mayor Milt Hanks, for a fiery convention speech in which he accused four opponents of colluding to smear candidate Chris Stewart, who went on to win the GOP nomination.

"I have no doubt that many candidates and their supporters said and did things along the campaign trail in the heat of the moment they now regret. Most campaigns do," Wright said in the report. "But I have found no evidence that any laws were violated by any of the candidates or their campaigns."

The report says that Hanks' allegations that Wallack, former House Speaker David Clark, Cheryl Egar and Chuck Williams conspired against Stewart were baseless and that there was also no evidence to support the most sensational claim — that Hanks was a plant working to get Stewart elected.

Stewart did not respond to a request for comment Tuesday.

Egar said she considers the report an "accurate assessment," but said it doesn't put the issues to rest.

"I can't fault the party because, first of all, the party doesn't have the time or resources to be really diving into it. I think they did what they could and I think they have asked appropriate questions," said Egar, who used the convention controversy in a recent fundraising solicitation. "I think it went a long way in helping people know that the four of us were not involved in that ... so we appreciate that."

Wright was asked by delegates to delve into the events after the 2nd District contest erupted into a firestorm of allegations and innuendo. The report echoes up the incident to the heated race and simple misunderstandings and states that the party supports Stewart as its nominee.

But Wright also said that Hanks, while acting "according to his conscience," did not consider the impact on the election and reputations of the other candidates when he made charges he could not prove.

"Mr. Hanks acted irresponsibly in accusing four candidates of misconduct with no evidence to support his claims," Wright said.

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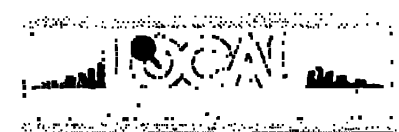
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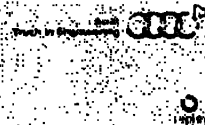
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## Investigations Finds No Shady Dealing in Utah GOP 2nd District Race

by Bob Bernick

05/09/2012 | 567 views | 0 comments | 2 shares



Bob Bernick, Utah Policy Contributing Editor

GOP state chairman Thomas Wright on Tuesday released his much anticipated report on the unfortunate circumstances surrounding accusations and speeches made at the

April 21 state party convention in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District race.

Wright told UtahPolicy that he will suggest several party bylaw/convention operation changes because of the incident, including perhaps stopping first-round speeches in multi-candidate races and/or some kind of candidate vetting by delegates themselves to keep non-serious candidates from addressing the convention at all.

Just two of the rumors Wright's inquiry dispelled:

-- 2<sup>nd</sup> District candidate Milton Hanks, who basically caused this whole convention mess, was not a "stalking horse" or a "plant" for the Chris Stewart campaign.

-- The Stewart campaign's quick response on the anonymous anti-Stewart delegate letter was good organization work, and the campaign didn't know about the anti-Stewart letter beforehand.

Wright spent more than a week and, clearly, a lot of time interviewing the 10 2<sup>nd</sup> District candidates and a number of delegates and others that wanted input into the chairman's report.

Long story made short: Wright didn't find any underhanded dealings, no plots nor on-purpose "dirty tricks" by the candidates or members of their campaign staffs.

That doesn't mean that Wright didn't find fault.

In the report and in an UtahPolicy interview, Wright basically said that while 2<sup>nd</sup> District candidate Hanks -- who made accusations from the podium in the first-round speeches against several other 2<sup>nd</sup> District candidates -- may have honestly believed what he was saying, he didn't have any real evidence to back up his (false) claims and shouldn't have said what he did.



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And the state party official overseeing those first round speeches and first round voting should have cut Hanks' mike off as Hanks began to slam the other candidates by name.

That wasn't done, said Wright, and it should have been.

It's unfortunate if Hanks' accusations had real impacts on the 2<sup>nd</sup> District voting.

But if they did, there's nothing to be done about it now.

As UtahPolicy readers know, Stewart went on to barely beat out former House Speaker Dave Clark in the final round of voting by more than 60 percent, thus eliminating Clark in the convention.

Stewart has been certified as the Utah Republican Party's 2<sup>nd</sup> District nominee. There will be no primary in that race - which has been reported previously.

You can read Wright's extensive report below.

As you can see from reading the report there are links to other documents, like the anti-Stewart letter that was sent out to some of the 1,000 state GOP 2<sup>nd</sup> District delegates just before the April 21 convention.

(FYI on the letter - from various UtahPolicy interviews, it appears that maybe 30 to 50 letters were actually received by delegates, more than the half dozen reported earlier in other Utah media.)

Stewart issued the following statement Wednesday:

"I am grateful to chairman Wright and his staff for the work they performed in compiling this report. After a thorough review, my campaign staff and I are satisfied with the results. We are now looking forward to the general election and if we are successful, going back to Washington, D.C., to fight for the principles that have made our nation great."

Clark has previously told UtahPolicy that he will support the GOP nominee in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District, and the Republican nominees in other races.

Of note: It was reported in The Salt Lake Tribune that it appeared fishy that some delegates received the anti-Stewart letter on one day, and Stewart got out to delegates a response just a day later.

Both Wright and a Stewart spokeswoman explained that timing to UtahPolicy:

The letter was delivered to several delegates in the mail one morning. It was brought to the Stewart campaign that same morning.

The campaign staff got organized, printed up responses, hand-stuffed envelopes and delivered the first-class stamped letters to the post office by early afternoon, making the afternoon mailing deadline.

And thus, Wright and the Stewart campaign spokeswoman said, the anti-Stewart letter could have been delivered to a delegate, brought to the campaign and the official response received by delegates the next day in the U.S. mail.

"I accept that explanation," Wright told UtahPolicy. "I specifically asked that question about the timing" of the Stewart campaign's response letter.

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In other words, the quick Stewart campaign response has a viable explanation – and the campaign didn't have to have had knowledge of, or the actual anti-Stewart letter, before it hit a few delegates' mailboxes.

"There are a number of actions we could take to help ensure what happened in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District at the state GOP convention (detailed in Wright's report) doesn't happen again, said Wright:

"First and foremost, we need to do a better job of keeping proper decorum at the conventions," he said.

Republicans, unfortunately, in recent years have had instances in county and state conventions where delegates, candidates and guests have abused that proper decorum standard, he added.

Secondly, some way should be found to weed out non-serious candidates before they get to speak at the conventions.

One of the complaints against Hanks was that he did not run a serious campaign – didn't raise much money, didn't attend most of the 29 county GOP conventions, made little effort to contact delegates – and then in his first-round convention speech didn't talk about himself but attacked, by name, Clark and several other 2<sup>nd</sup> District candidates.

Wright said he has a few ideas, but that the issue should be considered by the state party's governing body, the state Central Committee.

For instance, suggested Wright, if in multi-candidate races there were no speeches before the first round of voting – and if there was a floor of, say, 3 percent support to move to the second round – non-serious candidates could be eliminated without ever getting to address the convention delegates.

Or, said Wright, perhaps a candidate only got to give a pre-voting first round speech if he got a stated number of delegate signatures. That, also, could stop a non-serious candidate from speaking.

The concern, said Wright, is that some people pay the candidate filing fee (or get the fee waived by claiming they are poor) just so they can address the state or county GOP conventions.

They aren't serious candidates, they just like to get up on a stage and say what they want in front of the media and thousands of delegates for five or six minutes.

"We certainly want to encourage people to run for office" as Republicans, said Wright.

"But it's getting to the point where we need some kind of vetting by the delegates" of the candidates "prior to letting some people speak."

Wright said that three weeks after Hanks made the allegations in his convention speech against Clark and the other 2<sup>nd</sup> District candidates – allegations that could have impacted the delegates' voting – Hanks "still can not substantiate anything that he said."

Utah GOP Chairman's Inquiry

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## GOP chairman finds Eureka mayor's charges baseless

By Antone Clark /authors/antone-clark/

Standard-Examiner (/category/author-organization/standard-examiner) correspondent (/category/author-type/correspondent)

Wed, 05/09/2012 - 5:19pm

SALT LAKE CITY — The candidate who stirred a controversy at the Republican State Convention over the 2nd Congressional District nomination acted irresponsibly in leveling charges against four other candidates, alleging a plot to thwart the election bid of eventual nominee, Chris Stewart, an investigation by the state party chairman has found.

Thomas Wright, chairman of the state GOP, released a seven-page report Tuesday after an investigation into the bizarre events at the April 21 state convention where Stewart won the nomination on the third ballot, emerging as the victor in a field of 11 candidates.

Wright's probe levels some harsh criticism at Eureka Mayor Milt Hanks, a candidate for the nomination who stirred the controversy in the first round of speeches. Hanks alleged that four candidates — Chuck Williams, Cheryllyn Eagar, Howard Wallack and Dave Clark — approached him at the Davis County party convention and asked that he pledge his support for any candidate other than Stewart if any of the candidates were to drop out of the race, and secondly that he engage in a last-minute act of negative campaigning to uncover what they alleged were misleading statements by Stewart.

Wright said he can find no evidence that a formal meeting took place among the candidates at the Davis County convention, and said all of the four candidates named deny any such conversation took place.

The plot that unfolded at the convention also included an unsigned letter sent to some delegates in the 2nd District, alleging Stewart had conspired his military record, among other things. During the state convention, Hanks took aim at the four and referenced the letter in making the last speech of the first voting round at the convention.

Wright is still seeking information about who may have initiated the letter.

"I strongly encourage anyone who has information that would be helpful in determining who is responsible for the letter to contact the Federal Elections Commission," Wright said.

Adding a layer of intrigue to the letter issue is a link the communiqué had to a similar letter in the 2010 U.S. Senate race, in which Sen. Mike Lee was painted in a negative light, allegedly by Stewart's brother, who was a former staffer for Sen. Bob Bennett.

Because there were so many candidates, speeches for the 2nd Congressional race were held in a room adjacent to the main hall, where most of the convention events took place. Wright said the person in charge of monitoring the speeches should have turned off Hanks' mic when he began to assail his fellow candidates.

The second round of speeches for the remaining candidates moved to the main hall, where fireworks erupted. Williams called Stewart "a bald-faced liar" and threw his support to Clark. Eagar and Wallack also backed out and threw their support to Clark.

Clark did emerge as the only candidate besides Stewart from Round Two but was beaten in Round Three by the Farmington resident.

Wright is critical of Hanks, but does not allege any illegal activity, or the idea that Hanks — who did not actively campaign — was a plant by the Stewart campaign.

"I believe he acted according to his conscience, but he did not consider the full impact his actions would have on the elections or on the reputations of those individuals and their families for making allegations against them," Wright wrote. "Mr. Hanks acted irresponsibly by accusing four candidates of misconduct with no evidence to support his claims."

As part of the findings, Hanks formally issued a paragraph of apology for his actions at the convention.

"It was unfair of me to not verify that my suspicions were true before making accusations during my speech. The Party is better than this. Utah is better than this," Hanks said.

Stewart was out of town and could not be reached for comment on the report's findings.

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## GOP report: 'Backroom dealing' not to blame for Utah convention controversy

By Lisa Riley Roche, Deseret News

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Published: Tuesday, May 8, 2012 12:05 p.m. MDT

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Candidate in the 2nd Congressional District Chris Stewart speaks at the GOP convention Saturday, April 21, 2012 in the South Towne Exposition Center.

Scott G. Winteron, Deseret News archives

### Summary

A report released Tuesday concluded that "backroom dealing" was not to blame for the 2nd Congressional District race boiling over at the Republican Party's state convention last month.

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah GOP Chairman Thomas Wright concluded in a report released Tuesday that "backroom dealing" was not to blame for the 2nd Congressional District race boiling over at the party's state convention last month.

Wright said he supports Chris Stewart as the party's nominee for the seat and found no evidence that any laws were violated by any of the candidates or their campaigns.

He also said there was no evidence other candidates conspired against Stewart, who won the nomination after a series of allegations made during convention speeches by some of the 10 others in the running.

The uproar started, the report said, when one of the candidates, Eureka Mayor Milt Hanks, told delegates during his first-round speech that he was approached by four other candidates, Dave Clark, Cheryl Eggar, Howard Wallack and Chuck Williams, to join an "ABC" or "anybody but Chris" effort.

In interviews with Wright, those four candidates "emphatically denied" such a conversation took place and Hanks said only one of the four asked him to pledge his support to any candidate other than Stewart.

Hanks' microphone should have been cut off, Wright said, "when he began naming candidates and making

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subjective, inflammatory accusations" but the official running the first round of speeches in a side hall said it happened so fast he had no time to react.

Wright said Hanks "believed what he said to be correct when he said it. I believe he acted according to his conscience but did not consider the full impact his actions would have on the elections or on the reputations of these individuals and their families," and acted irresponsibly.

Hanks apologized in the report, but said he "spoke what I believed to be the truth based on conversations I had with other candidates" and noted he did not have "proper documentation" and did not "verify my suspicions were true before making accusations during my speech."

The report said Hanks had received a copy of a letter to GOP delegates that surfaced before the April 21 convention that raised questions about Stewart's military background and connections to the controversial "Temple mailer" in the 2010 U.S. Senate race that initially appeared to be an attack on former Sen. Bob Bennett.

"Despite considerable time and energy on the part of myself and my staff, I have been unable to ascertain who is responsible for the letter," Wright said in the report. He said because it did not include the disclaimer about who authorized or paid for it, it is in violation of federal election laws.

The Republican chairman went on to "strongly encourage anyone who has information that would be helpful in determining who is responsible for the letter to contact the Federal Elections Commission."

The report, written at the request of a delegate at the convention who asked for a full investigation in the midst of the confusion, calls for future convention planners to review whether candidates who do not campaign should be allowed to speak.

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Lisa Riley Roche

Lisa Riley Roche covers politics for the Deseret News/KSL news division, producing content for the newspaper, the TV and radio stations, and both [deseretnews.com](http://deseretnews.com) and [ksl.com](http://ksl.com). She has been a reporter for more than 25 years, more.

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(Leah Nogelen | The Salt Lake Tribune) After 2nd Congressional District candidate Milt Harris alleged that his fellow candidates conspired to oust Chris Stewart, Charlyn Eager (left), Chuck Williams (center) and Howard Wallace (not shown) all withdrew their nominations and threw their support to Dave Clark. Stewart went on to win the Republican nomination, though the GOP is conducting a promised investigation into the proceedings.

## 2nd District race full of intrigue, conspiracy theories

Politics » Stewart, Utah GOP convention rivals deny claims as the party launches a probe.

By Robert Gabriele | The Salt Lake Tribune  
First Published Apr 26 2012 06:57 pm • Last Updated Apr 26 2012 11:02 am

As an author, Chris Stewart has written numerous tales of political intrigue.

But at the Utah Republican Convention on Saturday, he found himself in the middle of a bizarre and confounding conspiracy tale, complete with claims of bad blood, skulduggery, secret alliances and double agents.

And when it spilled out onto the convention stage with vitriol and outrage, befuddled delegates in the 2nd Congressional District race were left scratching their heads.

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### GOP Begins Inquiry

Candidate and campaign staff in Utah's 2nd Congressional District race were summoned to the state Republican Party headquarters Wednesday, as the party chairman began his investigation into events surrounding the implosion at the party convention Saturday.

"I don't view this as a criminal investigation. This is just the chairmanship asking their chairman to help sort out the facts," said Utah GOP Chairman Thomas Wright.

Candidate Cheryl Enns said she will meet with the party on Thursday and hopes for a fair, thorough investigation. But if the party has a conflict of interest, since Stewart is the nominee, an independent investigation may be necessary.

But Wright said he has no bias in the race and his only interest is getting delegates objective information about what transpired.

"I have made a commitment to the delegates to release to them the facts that I find," he said. "I have no fear about releasing those. I will be honest with them and forthcoming in what I find."

Wright said he isn't sure how long it will take to gather information, but he won't stop anything unless he's sure it's accurate.

Quin Monson, a political science professor at Brigham Young University, said it might benefit Wright to get to the bottom of what happened before Democrats do, especially if there was something embarrassing.

"In that sense there is every incentive for Thomas Wright to be an honest investigator,"

Stewart emerged the winner on the day, clinching the GOP nomination as his closest competitor, former House Speaker Dave Clark, faded amid the fog of the battle.

What remains are murky charges and recriminations that remain almost impossible to sort out. This race appears to be clear: Stewart's opponent in the 2nd District race found his demeanor and tactics during the campaign grating.

Candidate Chuck Williams, a former lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force and a Pentagon official, grew concerned that Stewart was embellishing his record as a pilot, misleading voters into thinking he flew combat missions and led an around-the-world speed record.

Stewart's camp also allegedly told delegates that Howard Wallack, who is Jewish, "isn't one of us. For all we know he could be a Muslim." Wallack confronted Stewart about the statement, but Stewart said it is "absolutely untrue" that it came from his campaign.

"What a dumb, dumb campaign tactic if someone were to try to do that," Stewart said. He also denies his record was exaggerated in any way and he has provided proof. "I'm proud of my service," he said.

By the end of the campaign, the resentment led a coalition, where the group agreed to support one another when other members were dropped out at convention.

Enter Milt Hanks.

**Low-profile candidate** - The Mayor of Eureka was a last-minute filer in the race, never bought a booth at county conventions, and spent less than \$1,700 on his campaign.

A pre-convention survey of delegates by the Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy at Brigham Young University found one delegate of the 276 surveyed supported Hanks, according to Quin Monson, associate director of the center.

Essentially, Hanks had never factored into the race — until his speech Saturday afternoon.

Hanks blasted four candidates — Williams, Wallack, Cheryl Enns and Clark — accusing them of cutting a backroom deal to bring down Stewart.

Hanks said that before the Davis County Convention, he had been asked to join the "Anybody But Clark" group, and accused it of sneaking Stewart's name in an anonymous letter sent to delegates at the last minute.

The letter, postmarked April 18, claimed Stewart had inflated his military record, lobbied for and received federal stimulus money for his company, and worked with his brother, Tim Stewart, to send out the infamous "Temple Miller" during the 2008 cycle — a slick mailer sent to delegates that made it appear that Milt Lou's campaign was challenging incumbent Sen. Bob Bennett's Mormonism.



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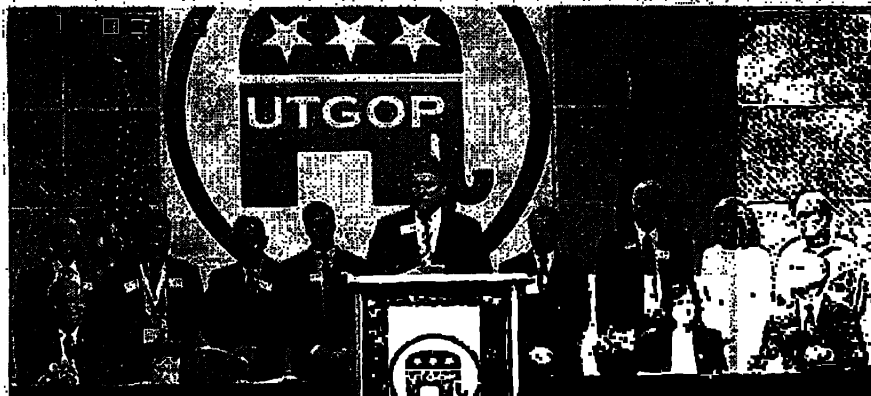
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## Report: No 'backroom dealing' involved in GOP convention controversy

By Lisa Riley Roche

May 8th, 2012 @ 8:56pm

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### Reaction to the results

In a statement, Stewart said he was satisfied by the report and grateful to Wright and his staff for their work. "We are now looking forward to the general election and, if we are successful, going back to Washington D.C.," the pilot and author said in the statement. His campaign said he was not available for further comment.

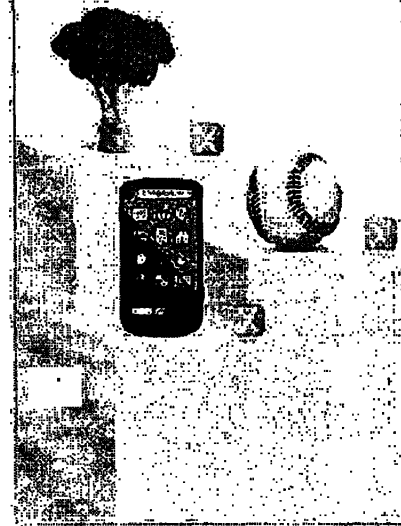
His Democratic opponent, Jay Seegmiller, said he's not sure how the campaign will be affected by the report. "It's something they have to sort out on the other side of the ticket," he said, calling the convention brouhaha "much ado about nothing."

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah GOP Chairman Thomas Wright concluded in a report released Tuesday that "backroom dealing" was not to blame for the 2nd Congressional District race taking a chaotic turn at the party's state convention last month.

Wright said in the report, requested by confused delegates at the April 21 convention, that he supports Chris Stewart as the party's nominee for the seat and found no evidence that any of the 10 other candidates in the race conspired against Stewart or broke any rules.

Stewart won the nomination amid a series of charges and countercharges made during convention speeches, beating former Utah House Speaker Dave Clark in a third round of voting with just more than the 60 percent of the vote needed to avoid a primary.

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Seegmiller, who won the legislative seat held by then-GOP House Speaker Greg Cuthbert four years ago, said since the convention, he has been contacted by Republican delegates who wanted to know more about his candidacy.

"They said they were just fed up with all the shenanigans, so they were looking to learn more about me and see if they were comfortable maybe going in a different direction," Seegmiller said. "We'll see if this takes legs and we get more from it."

Wright said in an interview that the controversy hurt several candidates, including Stewart. "He has to live with this kind of controversy on the night of his victory," the party chairman said. "There's no winners in this."



Candidate in the 2nd Congressional District Chris Stewart speaks Q at the GOP convention Saturday, April 21, 2012 in the South Town Exposition Center. (Photo: Scott O'Winterton, Deseret News)

Neither Clark nor his campaign manager could be reached for comment. "Dave was hurt," Wright said. "To miss this primary by such a few amount of votes after something like this happens, that's a difficult loss."

#### Details of the findings

The report said the uproar started when one of the candidates, Eureka Mayor Milt Hanks, told delegates during his first round speech that he was approached by four other candidates — Clark, Cheryl Eager, Howard Wallack and Chuck Williams — to join an "ABC" or "anybody but Chris" effort.

At the convention Eager, Wallack and Williams had all withdrawn from the race before the second round of voting, and Williams called Stewart a "liar" from the stage, suggesting he was behind Hanks' allegations.

In interviews with Wright, the report said Clark, Eager, Wallack and Williams "emphatically denied" the conversation Hanks described in his convention speech. The report said Hanks couldn't recall who among the four asked him to campaign against Stewart.

Hanks' microphone should have been cut off, the report said, "when he began naming candidates and making subjective, inflammatory accusations," but the official running the first round of speeches in a side hall said it happened so fast he had no time to react.

**(Eureka Mayor Milt) Hanks apologized in the report but said he "spoke what I believed to be the truth based on conversations I had with other candidates" ...**

Wright said in the report that Hanks "believed what he said to be correct when he said it. I believe he acted according to his conscience but did not consider the full impact his actions would have on the elections or on the reputations of these individuals and their families," and acted irresponsibly.

Hanks apologized in the report but said he "spoke what I believed to be the truth based on conversations I had with other candidates" even though he acknowledged he did not have "proper documentation" and did not "verify my suspicions were true before making accusations during my speech."

The report said Hanks had received a copy of a letter to GOP delegates that surfaced before the convention raising questions about Stewart's military background and connections to the controversial "Terapia matter" in the 2010 U.S. Senate race that initially appeared to be an attack on former Sen. Bob Bennett but was actually aimed at now-Sen. Mike Lee.

"Despite considerable time and energy on the part of myself and my staff, I have been unable to ascertain who is responsible for the letter," Wright said in the report. He said the letter was in violation of federal election laws because it did not include a required disclaimer about who authorized or paid for it.

The Republican chairman went on in the report to "strongly encourage anyone who has information that would be helpful in determining who is responsible for the letter to contact the Federal Elections Commission."

The report also calls for future convention planners to review rules governing candidate conduct, including whether candidates whose names are mentioned by opponents should be allowed rebuttal time and whether candidates who do not campaign should be allowed to give a speech at all.



#### Lisa Riley Roche, Political Reporter

Lisa Riley Roche covers politics for the Deseret News/KSL news division, producing content for the newspaper, the TV and radio stations, and both [deseretnews.com](http://deseretnews.com) and [ksl.com](http://ksl.com). She has been a reporter for more than 25 years. [Full Bio >](#)



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## Utah Republican Party investigates scandal at state convention

Written by Tracie McFarlin on May 11, 2012 in News, State - No comments



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**MIDVALE** – The Utah Republican Party has released the findings of an investigation into the scandal and drama at the Republican State Convention.

The race for the Republican nomination for Utah's 2nd Congressional District was the site of an uproar at the state convention in April. During a speech to delegates, candidate Milt Hanks accused four of his fellow candidates of creating a conspiracy to prevent candidate Chris Stewart from winning the nomination.

At least one candidate became upset onstage, the microphone was cut off at least once, and state delegates were left confused about the situation.

State delegate Steve Kelley made a motion for the Utah Republican Party chairman to conduct an investigation into the events. The investigation has been completed and the findings have been released. You can read the entire report [here](#) or [here \(pdf\)](#).

St. George News previously reported on the events at the convention [here](#).

The centerpiece of this scandal was an anonymous letter attacking candidate Stewart. Several state delegates received copies of this letter in the mail with no return address and no "paid for by" or "endorsed by" disclaimer.

The Federal Election Commission requires these disclaimers on any public communications, including mass mailings.

Hanks said he was handed a copy of the letter while in a mall in Provo. He said he was approached by a woman who asked him if he was Milt Hanks, and after he confirmed he was, he said she gave him the negative letter.

Utah Republican Party Chairman Thomas Wright concluded in his seven page investigative report that he believes that Hanks "acted according to his conscience but he did not consider the full impact his actions would have on the elections or on the reputations of these individuals and their families..." Wright also noted that "the burden was on Mr. Hanks to prove his allegations and he has been unable to do so."

Wright found no evidence of wrongdoing by any 2nd Congressional District candidates.

Cherilyn Eagar, candidate for the Republican nomination for the 2nd Congressional District, said she is glad Wright found no evidence of wrongdoing but that the matter merits more investigation.

"We're glad that he has found that we had nothing to do with the anonymous letter and with any conspiracy against any candidate, but we are still trying to figure out who did it," Eagar said. "Rather than shove it under the carpet we think that we owe it to the delegates, the party and the voters to research it a little bit further."

Eagar said she will contact St. George News when she learns more.

Candidate Howard Wallack also said he believes there should be more investigation.

"There's still just too many questions. That someone would walk up the day before a convention, that someone would walk into a mall in Provo, which is not even in the 2nd District, ... an anonymous person, who is one of the very few who received this anonymous mailing, happens to bump into Milt Hanks and recognizes him and hands him a copy of this. I mean it's a little absurd," Wallack said.

"(Hanks) then goes home and in a couple of hours pens a six-minute speech, which he is then able to deliver with precision (at the convention) without the use of a teleprompter," Wallack said. "It just seems a little unrealistic to me."

Candidate Jeramey McElhaney said the results of the investigation are what he expected them to be.

"It's almost the exact same words that I told Thomas (Wright) that I thought was what happened. But at the end of the day it's not going to be beneficial to the Republican party to have a big fight over it at this point," McElhaney said.

"I know all the candidates, obviously, spent a lot of time with them over the past few months, and I think for the most part they're good people. I'd say all of them are good people," McElhaney said. "I mean it's unfortunate the way it happened and I'm positive that votes were changed because of what Milt Hanks had said, but I think that the findings are about what I expected them to be."

McElhaney also mentioned the investigative limitations of the Republican party.

"The Utah Republican party is not a criminal investigative body, it's a political party. So it's like anything else — you assume people are telling the truth," McElhaney continued. "Thomas (Wright) didn't call up all 11 candidates, I guess, and have them swear on a Bible to tell the truth, but I think everybody told the truth or at least their viewpoint of it."

Candidate Bob Fuehr is disappointed at the events.

"We had good people running, it's a shame that this thing had to come up from wherever it came," Fuehr said.

"With going from county convention to county convention you get to know (all of the candidates)," Fuehr continued. "It's like a traveling band of vagabonds that go from convention to convention. One day... we started at 8 a.m. in St George, and 1 p.m. in Cedar (City), and ended up in Beaver at 6 (p.m.)... It's really a shame that something had to come up to disrupt the process."

Candidate John Willoughby is happy with his fellow candidates but unhappy with Hanks' conduct.

"My fellow candidates conducted themselves admirably during the campaign and, with one exception, I have nothing but respect for each of them," Willoughby said. "Notwithstanding, I am very troubled by the abhorable behavior of Milton Hanks. I don't know what his motivation was... but there is no doubt that his despicable conduct swayed the outcome of the nomination process. In light of his convenient and selective memory loss, I'm afraid we'll never get to the bottom of what really happened."

Candidate Jason Buck is also unhappy with Hanks' actions.

"The process was definitely manipulated by Milt Hanks, who went in there premeditated with malicious intent," Buck said. "It was just a bad moment for the state Republican party because the people's interests in the end weren't represented well. I think Milt Hanks did everybody a disservice with what he did."

Chris Stewart won the Republican nomination for the 2nd Congressional District. Stewart's official statement reads:

"I am grateful to Chairman Wright and his staff for the work they have performed in compiling this report. After a thorough review, my campaign staff and I are satisfied with the results. We are now looking forward to the general election and, if we are successful, going back to Washington DC and joining the fight to save our nation at this critical time."

St. George News attempted to contact all 11 candidates for the Republican nomination for the 2nd Congressional District before publishing this story.

Email: [jkuzmanic@stgnews.com](mailto:jkuzmanic@stgnews.com) Attn: Tracie McFarlin

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### About the Author



Tracie McFarlin graduated from Dixie State College in May 2011 with a bachelor's in professional and technical writing. She began her journalism career as a reporter and copy editor for the student newspaper at Riverside Community College (Riverside, CA). She wrote for the Desert Valley Times (Mesquite, Nev.) and Mesquite Local News before coming to St. George News. In her spare time Tracie studies vocal music, reads fantasy literature, and follows developments in social media. Learn more about Tracie at her website, [www.traciemcfarlin.com](http://www.traciemcfarlin.com).

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(Steve Griffin/The Salt Lake Tribune) Milton Hanks, mayor of Eureka, carries one of his paintings into his home. Hanks, who cemented his reputation as a controversial figure at the recent state Republican convention, wants to clean up Eureka. Some residents say he's done little to nothing to help revitalize the town.

## Mayor of Eureka: The man who blew up Utah GOP convention

Politics » Tirade at the mic isn't his main problem – residents don't trust him.

By David Montero | The Salt Lake Tribune

First Published May 12 2012 05:22 pm • Last Updated May 13 2012 04:31 pm

Eureka » It takes about three minutes, going the 35 mph speed limit, to drive through this old mining town on Highway 6 on the way to the sand dunes out west.

It takes Billy Baum considerably less time to say something negative about the city's mayor, Milton Hanks.

"I guess I know him better than most," Baum said. "The guy, in my mind, is a flim-flam man."

The lanky 75-year-old settled onto a step under a low overhang that drew wasps so large they could be heard bumping into wood. A dusty Skil saw lay on the concrete patio surrounded by a faded, uneven stick fence. Around the corner from where he sat was a row of storefronts that looked as if they'd gone 15 pounds with a recession and lost.

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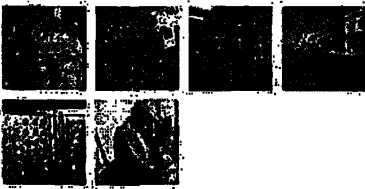
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That, in fact, might be the only thing Baum and Hanks agree on — there is a desperate need for economic stimulus in the Juab County town. In fact, both mention Park City as a model of what they'd like Eureka to be. But while they both want it, neither seems to trust the other to do it the right way.

The problem for Hanks is fewer in town seem to trust him. Public confidence in him wasn't bolstered any by his recent long-shot run for Congress and the events that thrust him into the spotlight on April 21.

**Convention chaos** » On that Saturday, Hanks arrived at the state Republican convention having the longest of long odds to secure the nomination for Utah's 2nd Congressional District and dropped a bombshell when it was his turn at the microphone.

When he spoke, it wasn't about tax policy or balancing the budget. Instead, it was an angry tirade about backroom politics, about deals and conspiracies against Chris Stewart

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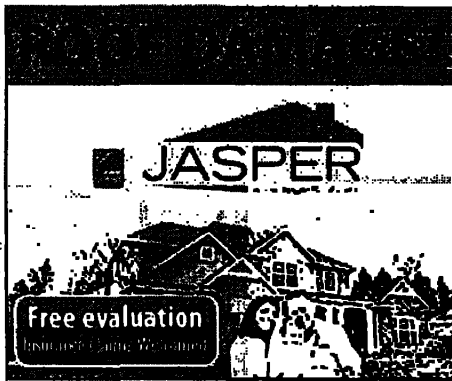
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orchestrated by other top-tier candidates through a last-minute letter that few delegates claim to have actually seen.

His explosive comments led to chaos and, eventually, Stewart securing the nomination without a primary. The state party investigated.

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"I have no way to prove or disprove what was said," Hanks said. "The party couldn't determine it either, so I don't feel bad."

But the events left many wondering who Hanks was.

For Hanks, who isn't prone to giving short answers, it's a complicated stew of careers, hobbies and ambitions spanning several states but usually leading back to two passions: sailing and printing.

"I wanted to be an artist," he said, sitting in the Eureka City Council Chambers. "But I had seven kids, and that killed my art career. The joke is I screwed myself out of being an artist."

He has a sailboat in Eureka and said that once his mayoral term ends in 2013, he might head out to the ocean again. Hanks said he's going to be a one-term mayor because he's a strict believer in term limits.

That suits Sharon Brewer just fine.

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will\_a

Interesting to learn a little more about this man. I can count on one-hand the number of people I genuinely dis-like, and even though I know very little about him--Milt Hanks is one of those five.

He didn't run a campaign--as a volunteer I probably worked more than him, and I honestly didn't stand much to gain by my candidate winning, but I know him to be a great man, so I wanted to help out. Instead I had to listen to Milt Hanks disparage him on stage. Win or lose it should have been a day that Dave Clark could hold his head high and feel like he had run a good campaign and added to constructive dialogue in the 2nd congressional district. Unfortunately the delegates believed the words of this Mayor that no one really knew. I don't blame the delegates. They were put in a difficult situation where they had to decide who was telling the truth without sufficient evidence.

Milt Hanks proved one of the flaws of the delegate/convention system--any idiot can get on the ballot and go up on stage and say whatever he wants and completely change the course of candidates that actually worked to earn the nomination.

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Brer Rabbit

Too bad Rep Matheson went carpetbagging to the 4th CD. If he had stayed in the 2nd CD he would have had a much better chance, after this little GOP fiasco. Mia Love will be a hard candidate for Matheson, a democrat to beat.

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Standerin7



Sure, wish this headline was true. The Utah GOP needs to be blown up.

21 hours ago 2 Likes

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chek1

If your tired of the party politics that both parties engage in, then look at the other candidates. Neither party is innocent when it comes to back room dealings.

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bedanged



I don't think the Dems can outdo the GOP in their screw ups though and we all witness their ethics daily

The Salt Lake Tribune

Friday, May 11, 2012 | Last Updated: 11:53 AM

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# Ex-Bennett staffer linked to 'temple mailer'



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Politics » Former legislative aide says he was a middleman for the 'brilliant' political move.

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BY ROBERT GEHRKE AND THOMAS BURR

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

PUBLISHED JUNE 14, 2010 9:03 PM

This is an archived article that was published on sltrib.com in 2010, and information in the article may be outdated. It is provided only for personal research purposes and may not be reprinted.

A Washington lobbyist who had worked for Sen. Bob Bennett and supported his re-election bid apparently played a key role in a mailer designed to look like opponent Mike Lee was challenging the senator's faith.

Tim Stewart, who spent seven years as a legislative aide for Bennett and now is a lobbyist and founder of the group Saddle PAC, coordinated the mailer with a pair of D.C.-area consulting firms, according to e-mails and invoices provided to *The Salt Lake Tribune*.

Stewart said late Monday that he wasn't the mastermind, but instead was a go-between for a group of Utahns whom he would not identify.

"I sincerely wish that I could take credit for what may be the most brilliant and possibly the biggest single game-changing political play in Utah politics in the last 20 years. But I can't. I am not that diabolical nor creative," he said. "Instead, I am just a two-bit, wannabe political consultant, contacted by some Utah folks wanting to exercise their First Amendment rights. They came up with a great idea and we found a vendor and that's about the extent of it."

The ad, claiming to be sent from an unregistered group calling itself Utah Defenders of Constitutional Integrity, pictured Lee above an LDS temple and Bennett above the U.S. Capitol. Below, it asked, "Which candidate really has Utah values?"

Stewart wrote the body of the direct-mail piece in an April 28 e-mail to Michael Copperthite, of Capital Campaigns Inc.

"It would be good to have as a watermark the Constitution," Stewart wrote. "It needs to hit mailboxes not before next Wednesday and Thursday."

In a follow-up e-mail, Stewart corrected a pair of typos before the ad went out prior to the Utah Republican Convention on May 8.

Capital Campaigns Inc. hired Precision Strategies, an Alexandria, Va.,-based consulting firm that mainly has done work for Democratic candidates, dealing directly with Jordan Karp, according to an invoice obtained by *The Tribune*.

Capital Campaigns paid Precision Strategies \$4,734.25 for the job.

*The Tribune* previously had traced the bulk-mail permit number to a Cleveland-based company, Hotcards.com, which said it had been hired by Karp and Precision Strategies to send the ad.

Greg Hopkins, Bennett's campaign manager, said the campaign had nothing to do with the temple mailer. "We didn't know anything about any of the independent stuff that was going on," he said.

After Bennett was eliminated at the convention, Stewart contributed \$500

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to Tim Bridgewater's campaign and Saddle PAC gave \$1,000. The Bridgewater campaign said it would return the funds Stewart gave to the campaign.

"I'm shocked and appalled that someone supporting my opponent's campaign would resort to such thuggish, Chicago-style tactics," Lee said. "These tactics were clearly intended to hurt my campaign and help my opponent's."

Lee said he was not suggesting that the Bridgewater campaign knew about the mailer. Lee said his campaign is exploring whether it would file a complaint with the Federal Election Commission.

"We thought the temple mailer was completely disgusting," Bridgewater spokeswoman Tiffany Gunnerson said, "and even if it benefited us miraculously, it's not the right thing to do and we don't want to be any part of that."

She said it is wrong for Lee to be trying to tie the Bridgewater campaign in any way to the ad. "I guess it just reflects the tone their campaign is setting right now," she said.

Karp declined to comment Monday on the e-mails. Copperthite did not return a message.

If the objective of the mailer was to make it look like Lee supporters were using the religion card to slam Bennett, it may have worked.

A post-convention poll by Brigham Young University's Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy showed that about a third of those who saw the mailer initially believed it had been sent by the Lee campaign and found it highly offensive.

Going into the convention, polls showed Lee as the front-runner, but he finished second behind Bridgewater.

"This demonstrated that when ordinary people speak out, they do have an impact, even when the process may be closed to all but a few," Stewart said. "Who can argue with that?"

However, those behind the mailer could face an investigation and potential fines by the FEC for not disclosing an expense made to influence a federal election and for failing to file as a political action committee.

Paul Ryan, an attorney with the Washington-based Campaign Legal Center, said any group independently spending more than \$250 expressly advocating for or against a federal candidate must file that expenditure with the FEC. Moreover, a group formed for the purpose of advocating for or against a candidate must file as a political committee if it raises or spends more than \$1,000.

#### Tale of the temple mailer

The "temple mailer," showing Mike Lee's photo above an LDS temple and Sen. Bob Bennett's above the U.S. Capitol, hit an unknown number of GOP delegates' mailboxes in the day or two before the Utah Republican Convention. The back of the ad used LDS lingo, telling voters the Constitution was "hanging by a thread" and urging them to "release Bennett with a vote of thanks." A post-convention poll showed a third of those who saw it believed it had come from the Lee campaign. Moreover, those who saw it found the use of religious imagery and phrases to be highly offensive. All sides denied any involvement, and the group that orchestrated the ad, Utah Defenders of Constitutional Integrity, have not registered with the Federal Election Commission. Lee, the front-runner going into the convention, finished second behind Tim Bridgewater. The two will face off in a primary a week from today.

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EXHIBIT 02

RENEW AMERICA

June 14, 2010

## Templegate: Chicago politics spreads its wings--to Utah?

By Wes Vernon

As a phenomenon, political dirty tricks should shock no one in the adult world. Nonetheless, not every political precinct is in Chicago, and there is less tolerance for that way of attracting votes in some places than in others.



Wes Vernon



Mike Lee

### Templegate?

This is the story of a last-minute smear job that — so far — appears to have worked.

By way of background, every politically-aware person in the nation knows that Utah's three-term Senator Bob Bennett was denied re-nomination to his job. The senator's candidacy was eliminated by his own party at its state GOP convention May 8. The end result was that his two rivals — Mike Lee (an attorney and son of Reagan Solicitor General Rex Lee) and Tim Bridgewater (an international financier and longtime business partner of George W. Bush's brother Neil) — will face off in a statewide primary June 22. The winner of that contest is viewed as having a strong edge in the predominantly Republican state November 2.

Just prior to the convention, delegates received in the mail a flier picturing Mike Lee above the Salt Lake (Mormon) Temple and Senator Bob Bennett above the Capitol building in Washington. Below the pictures was the rhetorical question "Which candidate really has Utah values?"

Interestingly, most of the fliers went only to those delegates favoring Lee's opponents or to those who were listed as uncommitted — suggesting that if the Lee delegates had received them, the campaign might have had more time to mount an effective counter-offensive before the convention did its voting.

### The backfire

What is for certain is that anyone in possession of the slightest acquaintance with Utah politics and culture would instinctively know that dragging Mormonism's most widely-known symbol into raw politics is pure political poison for anyone who perpetrates it.

It is thus not credible that this monument to the ham-handed was in any way engineered by Lee or anyone associated with his campaign. But subsequent polling of the delegates showed the flier damaged Mr. Lee, just as the mailer had obviously intended.

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Prior to the convention, much of the speculation had Lee possibly garnering a super-majority (60%) of the delegate vote — in which case he would have avoided a runoff primary. In the actual balloting, Lee led all contenders in the first round, and Senator Bennett was eliminated in the second. But then, in the final showdown, it was Tim Bridgewater who ended up with 57.28% of the votes (just barely short of avoiding the primary runoff) and Lee trailing with 42.72%, after supporters of Bennett backed Bridgewater on the third ballot.



Tim Bridgewater

### Comment

So the upshot of Templegate's political thuggery is that Lee goes into a primary season where his backers must spend time on defense explaining that their campaign had nothing to do with the flier.

Senator Jim DeMint (R-South Carolina) heads the group *Senate Conservatives*, which — as its title suggests — works to elect those Republican senators who shun the "pale pastels" (a term used by Ronald Reagan) of "moderate" (RINO) Republicanism. Both Lee and Bridgewater claim to be the true conservative, but DeMint is firmly in Lee's corner. On his organization's blog, Senator DeMint said of the last-mailing mailings, "Negative attacks occur in politics all the time, but this one was very dirty...and very illegal" (bold type in original).

### What is to be done?

There are reports that investigations of the mailing are underway by the FEC (Federal Elections Commission) and the FBI. The latter, as usual, is very closed-mouthed about either the substance or the very existence of its ongoing investigations. The FEC also keeps details about ongoing investigations confidential, but will acknowledge the existence of a probe if the inquiring party can name either the complainant or the target. Apparently, the most obvious names are not attached to any ongoing FEC effort to expose the perpetrator. Aside from that, federal investigators have thrown cold water on any notion that the case will be solved before the June 22 primary. (Early voting has already started.)

The dirty tricks apparently are ongoing. The campaign reported that robo calls went out to Republican voters again this past week claiming that Lee had the support of freshman Congressman Jason Chaffetz. Not so, and this claim appears to be another attempt to put Lee on the defensive, even though — as with the flier — he appears to be blindsided by it.

Ryan McCoy — a high official in Lee's camp — told this column he would love to have the backing of the very popular congressman, but that he knows Chaffetz — for reasons of protocol and of practical politics — observes the general unwritten wisdom that when you're running for office yourself, you don't butt into someone else's primary.



Thomas Burr

### What is known

Thomas Burr of the *Salt Lake Tribune's* Washington bureau has done some digging, and according to his blog, this is what he has learned:

"[T]he answer of who paid for the now infamous Temple mailer may lie in an Alexandria, Va., consulting firm that has worked for and donated to Democrats....

"The mail permit used to ship the piece to delegates was Permit #1667 out of Cleveland, Ohio, which according to the U.S. Postal Service belongs to

Hotcards.com, listed at 1600 E. 23rd Street | Cleveland."

A Hotcards rep who had the account told Burr the mailer was paid for by one Jordan Karp of Precision Strategies in Alexandria.

Repeated attempts by Burr — and later by this column — to reach Precision Strategies were to no avail as of this writing. Burr finds that Karp — listed as a partner — has supported and contributed to Democrats.

Meanwhile Senator Bennett has endorsed Bridgewater to succeed him in Washington, citing the latter's business experience, a background not unlike that of the senator himself. Lee has won the support of Stephen Covey, respected Utah author of *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*.



Sen. Bob Bennett

### Pros and cons

Bridgewater, who rose from humble beginnings to the world of corporate finance, has been accused — by his opponent and others — of profiting from taxpayer money he has secured for his international clients (and his own ventures) through government programs. In fact, some Republicans in the state see the Bennett endorsement as a minus for Bridgewater, given that the senator lost out in part because of what they see as his eagerness to facilitate public-private business arrangements that leave the taxpayer holding the bag. Others think Bridgewater gains because Bennett is believed to be more popular among the state's GOP rank and file than he was with the delegates.

In an interview with the *Provo Daily Herald*, the candidate responded that — as one example — he had helped a client of his consultancy "specifically with access for getting some grants for development projects overseas" which he claimed involved exports of about 200 million dollars of equipment and services "and I think that creates jobs here in this country, more in this economy in Provo...."

Bridgewater has left a residue of resentment among fellow Republicans in Utah County (whose seat is Provo about 40 miles south of Salt Lake City) because a few years ago he resigned his brief chairmanship of the county Republican Party during campaign season to join a 12-person primary race for Congress (which he lost). He left behind in his county position a replacement whose stewardship is blamed by some for the narrow general election defeat that year of the GOP nominee to Jim Matheson. The latter remains to this day the only Democrat in the Utah congressional delegation.

Mike Lee is sometimes criticized — even among his supporters — as not always an adequate speaker on the campaign trail (a surprise to this writer, who heard both men at Washington meetings and thought they stated their respective cases well).



Sen. Jim DeMint

First-time candidate Lee also made a move that called into question his political judgment: At the state convention he was allocated three minutes to make his case as to why the delegates should nominate him. Some delegates reportedly were taken aback when he used much of his limited time to present a video of an endorsement by Senator DeMint.

The South Carolinian is as solid as they come, but those delegates wanted to hear from the candidate, not from an out-of-state surrogate, no matter how worthy.

Mr. Bridgewater has the fatter war chest — largely self-financed. However, contributions to the Lee campaign are picking up — in part because of his background as a clerk for Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito (twice), as Assistant U.S. Attorney in Salt Lake City, and as General Counsel to Governor

Jon Huntsman, Jr., when Huntsman was in office.

### Adding it all up

As to Templegate, we don't know all the facts beyond what we have outlined here. What is apparent is that with two candidates attempting to out-conservative each other, someone or some entity desperately wants Mike Lee out of that Senate race. That shadowy player is willing to commit a crime and risk jail time just to bring him down. There has to be a reason for that beyond "politics as usual."

Utah voters are entitled to some answers, but they may not get any before the primary next week. FEC investigations take months, sometimes years.

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### *Dave Larson*

#### *Managing Partner*

dave@americancapitolgroup.com

Dave Larson is the founder and managing partner of the American Capitol Group. After over six years as a high-ranking Senate aide, Dave has since 2001 built and maintained a very successful lobbying practice.

In his current capacity, Dave oversees a government relations firm of over 40 clients, while specializing in policy and legislative strategy relating to biotechnology, disability, food, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and public health. Dave's clients include the American Dental Association, the Critical Path Institute, the Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers of America, Sanofi Pasteur, and URAC, to name a few.

Prior to the establishment of his lobbying practice, Dave had a successful Capitol Hill career as a senior health policy advisor to former Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN). From 1995-2001, Dave served as a staff member of the Senate Subcommittee on Public Health, which Senator Frist chaired. In that role, Dave's main area of focus was Food and Drug Law, Public Health Law and Disability Policy Law.

During his time in the Senate, Dave gained experience in legislative policy and strategy, and produced numerous legislative achievements. He drafted the Children's Health Act of 2000, the Public Health and Emergencies Act of 2000, the Children's Day Care Health and Safety Improvement Act of 1999, and the Youth Drug and Mental Health Services Act of 1999. He also helped draft the Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act of 1997, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 1997, and the

Public Health Improvement Act of 2000. All of these Bills became Law.

Dave also served from 2001-2003 as the government relations director for the Washington law firm of Aron, Fox, Kinnick, Peltin & Kahn. He then co-founded the government relations firm Larson, Dodd, LLC, which expanded to become the American Capitol Group.

#### *Education*

B.S. in Political Science and History, Illinois State University

M.S. in European Intellectual History, Illinois State University

### *Tim Stewart*

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Tim specializes in issues that affect the western states, such as appropriations, energy and land development, Native American issues, and water and natural resources policy. He represents several western clients including universities, tribes, trade associations, municipalities, state and country governments, and several small businesses.

He served from 2001 to 2003 as Legislative Director and Chief of Staff for the House Committee on Resources, where he managed 50 staff professionals and worked closely with the 52 members of the Committee. He was responsible for moving hundreds of bills through the legislative process. As a result, he has worked extensively with key members of Congress, including committee chairmen, House leaders, and Administration officials. He also developed relationships with leaders in industry, state government, and issue advocacy groups.

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Tim also served for seven years as a top aide to former Senator Robert Bennett (R-UT), a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He oversaw annual appropriations in the subcommittees on Interior and Related Agencies, Energy and Water, and Agriculture and Related Agencies.

#### Education

B.S. Political Science, Utah State University

#### Jim Link

##### Partner

[jim@americancongressgroup.com](mailto:jim@americancongressgroup.com)

Jim represents a diverse range of clients, including non-profit hospitals, Midwestern University and Beacraft USA before Congress and the Administration. He has more than a decade of lobbying experience, and served for eight years as a staff member in Congress.

He served from 1992 to 1995 as a top aide in the Senate Republican Whip office, and was Legislative Assistant for Senator Alan Simpson (R-WY). Jim managed the Senator's leadership and Senate floor responsibilities, and participated in Republican leadership strategy. He also directed the Senator's legislative initiatives relating to health care, labor, banking, commerce, and telecommunications, and was a primary speechwriter for the Senator. He has served as an aide to former Reps. William Dickinson (R-AL) and Dick Cheney (R-WY), and as a fundraiser for the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

Jim then led the government relations team at the National Association of Chain Drug Stores where he served as Vice President of Federal Government Affairs. He managed lobby strategies for Albertson's, CVS, Longs Drug Stores, Wal-Mart, and Walgreens relating to Medicare Part D, Medicaid, and labor, tax, and trade issues. He later moved to pharmaceutical government affairs counsel at Eisai Inc. in White Plains, where he built a large lobby practice for health care, non-profit, and corporate clients. He was also co-director of the Washington, DC office for MWW Group, and the chief lobbyist for the American Iron and Steel Institute.

#### Education

B.A. Political Science, Miami University

MBA, International Business American University

#### Jonathan Lehman

##### Partner

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Jonathan develops legislative strategies for clients on a broad range of issues including energy, agriculture, financial services, environment, and the environment. He has served at the highest levels on Capitol Hill, and provides a deep understanding of the legislative process and strategies needed to achieve client goals.

He served as Counsel from 2000 to 2005 for U.S. Senate Majority Leader Tom Darden (D-SD), where his responsibility was to develop key policies and legislative strategies for the Senate. Jonathan worked directly with committee chairman and ranking members to move legislation through the legislative process, and with leadership and committee staff to manage legislative procedures in the Senate. He worked directly with the White House and members of the House of Representatives while negotiating compromises on such bills as the 2002 Farm Bill, the Energy Policy Act, and Forest Health legislation.

Jonathan also served as Counsel from 1999 to 2000 to the Senate Agriculture Committee where he worked on anti-trust and competition issues related to agriculture.

#### Education

B.S. Natural Resources and Environment Sciences, University of Minnesota

J.D., Vermont Law School

#### Tom Dawson

##### Partner

Tom Dawson is a Partner and lobbyist with the American Capitol Group. He focuses on Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement policy, health insurance, health care reform, health IT, retirement income policy, and small business contracting. Tom's clients include the American Osteopathic Association, Medical Health Plans of America and the National Coalition of Healthcare Providers to name a few. His work with the health care industry has been both in the government as well as on the front lines of the health insurance industry.

Prior to joining the firm, Tom worked as Senior Health Care Counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Small Business, and as an advisor to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) Health Care Task Force. While on staff with the Small Business Committee, he provided guidance on reimbursement policy, health insurance, employer benefits, healthcare reform, and business policy affecting health providers.

Additionally, Tom served as a Petition Law

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## Expenditures

Senator Robert F. Bennett, 2009 - 2010

Campaign Expenses, \$1.5M

Contributions, \$30.3K

Media, \$227.4K

Administrative, \$769.5K

Uncoded, \$290.2K

### Top Vendors/Recipients

Vendor/Recipient	Total	No. of Payments
Potomac Group	\$632,650	23
Wilson Grand Communications	\$226,162	18
Emotive	\$166,803	32
The Potomac Group, Inc	\$150,363	4
Lawrence Research	\$104,932	5
Cbiz Main	\$79,377	18
Highwood Capital	\$59,462	12
Bellwether Consulting Group	\$56,952	12
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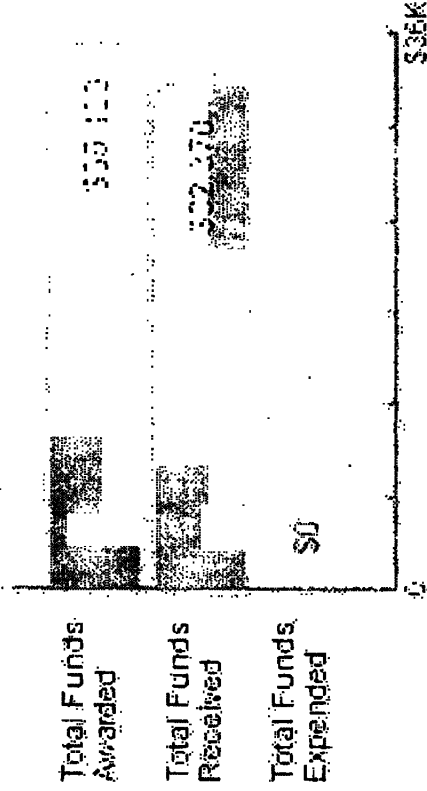
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## Summary

In a negotiated agreement on file with the FEC, the group created to distribute the controversial mailer, the Utah Defenders of Constitutional Integrity, was assessed a \$1,400 fine and ordered to file disclosure reports.

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SALT LAKE CITY — The case of the "Temple mailer" circulated in the 2010 U.S. Senate race has been resolved by the Federal Election Commission.

In a negotiated agreement on file with the FEC, the group created to distribute the controversial mailer, the Utah Defenders of Constitutional Integrity, was assessed a \$1,400 fine and ordered to file disclosure reports.

The mailer, sent out just days before the 2010 GOP state convention, pictured then-Sen. Bob Bennett next to the U.S. Capitol and one of his opponents, now-Sen. Mike Lee, next to the Mormon temple in Salt Lake City.

The front of the mailer also raised the question, "Which candidate really has Utah values?" On the back, it urged Republican delegates to "release Bennett with a vote of thanks and extend the call to someone new."

Although the mailer appeared to be in support of Lee, who eventually won the seat, a former Bennett employee, Tim Stewart, was identified as being behind it.

Supporters of Lee filed the complaint with the FEC over the mailer that resulted in the agreement signed in March and recently made public.

It was Stewart who signed the agreement with the FEC. The agreement stated he spent \$3,500 of his own money toward the cost of the mailer, in excess of the \$1,000 threshold for reporting the expenditure.

He was also cited for failing to register and file disclosure reports with the FEC and for not including contact information for the group on the mailer.

— Lisa Riley Roche Twitter: @newsopolitics

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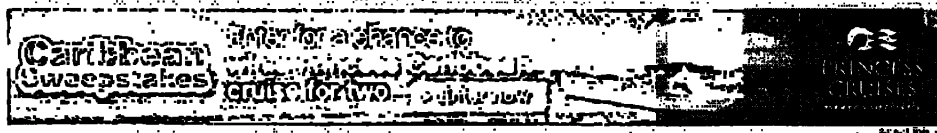
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## 2010 'Temple mailer' case resolved by FEC

By Lisa-Jill Reiche

April 27th, 2012 @ 1:36pm

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"Temple Mailer" flyer hijacked prior to the 2010 Utah Republican Convention featuring Mike Lee and Bob Bennett

## Notorious 'temple mailer' case is closed

By Matt Canham | The Salt Lake Tribune  
First Published Apr 28, 2012 04:54 pm • Last Updated Apr 28, 2012 11:35 pm

**Washington** • The fake group behind the so-called temple mailer that smeared Mike Lee in 2010 will have to officially file with the Federal Election Commission and pay a \$1,400 fine, but no individual will get penalized, according to a negotiated agreement.

The deal, released publicly this month, ends a two-year probe into the last-minute political mailer that tied Lee to the LDS Church and Sen. Bob Bennett to Washington.

It also offers new details on the creation of the mailer and the people behind the shadowy Utah Defenders of Constitutional Integrity, which took credit.

The hit piece made it seem like Lee was using the Mormon faith as a cudgel against Bennett, when it was actually produced by people who supported Bennett. Polls indicated it hurt Lee at the state convention, but he survived and eventually won the election, while Bennett came in third and was eliminated.

Lee has steamed over the mailer ever since, wanting to know who was behind the piece. But on Thursday, he said he accepted the agreement.

"I am satisfied the FEC has properly conducted their duties and consider the matter closed," he said.

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"It is disingenuous to say that the only person who had pre-arranged to the mailer. Stewart worked in the White House office for seven years as a political analyst. Bennett, who said he had no prior knowledge of the mailer, has recently partnered with Stewart to create the Bennett Consulting Group.

He was the main player behind the mailer, which featured Lee in front of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints temple in Salt Lake City, while Bennett was pictured in front of a black and white U.S. Capitol. The mailer asked: "Which candidate really has Utah's values?" and on the reverse side featured phrases steeped with meaning for Mormons, such as "Utahans (sic) value the Constitution above all else, but we know it hangs by a thread."

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Shortly after the convention, Stewart defended the piece received by 2,000 delegates but refused to take credit for it, telling The Salt Lake Tribune: "I sincerely wish that I could take credit for what may be the most brilliant and possibly the biggest single game-changing political play in Utah politics in the last 20 years. But I can't. I am not that diabolical or creative."

Lee called the mailer "thuggish, Chicago-style tactics," and requested an FEC investigation since the group didn't register or disclose who funded its activities.

The agreement, reached March 22, says the Utah Defenders of Constitutional Integrity, represented by Stewart, violated three laws for not registering as a political committee, not filing a disclosure report and not including its contact information on the piece.

It required that Stewart legally create the political action committee, which he did this week, and file the appropriate reports. It also says the PAC must pay a \$1,400 fine, but the FEC takes no action against Stewart as an individual.

Stewart declined to comment on the settlement, but his attorney Michael Toner, said that his client was "glad to have this matter behind him" and that the FEC levied only a modest financial penalty.

As part of the agreement, Stewart had to explain how the mailer came to be. He said he ran the idea by friends George Marshall and Randy Simmons, before contracting with a Democratic campaign consultant to create the ad and Precision Strategies, a mail house to send it out.

Precision Strategies charged a little more than \$4,700 for the temple mailer. Stewart paid \$3,500 and Marshall paid \$75. The agreement said an "unspecified person" spent \$50 for a prepaid cell phone to accept calls in response to the mailer.

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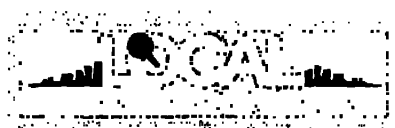
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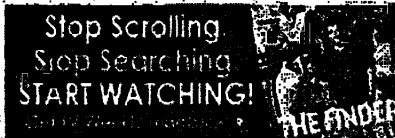
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Henry\_Drummond



And Bennett gets away with simply saying he did not know. He's in business with this same guy as we speak. He's not even trying to condemn such tactics. What a joke.

1 week ago 1 Like

Like Reply



derek marlowe

Wow!  
That's something a Democrat usually does.

2 weeks ago 1 Like

Like Reply



GI\_Mom

Google's "Sinister Sites" Mormon temple is on this site as an evil building.

2 weeks ago

Like Reply



pacificsharp



If it is on the Internet it must be true.

1 week ago In reply to GI\_Mom 2 Likes

Like Reply



Hipmama: Opinionated, not of the fold, paid to complain

This is disgusting. No one is above corrupt behavior. If some LDS folks expect that the "priesthood" will save the constitution they better start looking for a more ethical, honest, less entitled group of people to lead that effort.

2 weeks ago 5 Likes

Like Reply



fercelindy

I hope there is some scandal brewing against Mike Lee and we can elect a new Senator in 4 years. He is quite possibly the least effective senator in congress right now, resulting in Utah issues being ignored.

2 weeks ago 8 Likes

Like Reply



US2

When things being ignored, he's such a con artist that no one takes him seriously when he does have something urgent to say. (I can't think of an instance right now, but the sun shines every once in a while)

2 weeks ago In reply to fercelindy 2 Likes

Like Reply



fercelindy

A broken clock is right twice a day...  
But, who else when the clock is isolated and ignored by everyone.  
Look, Utahns need to understand how crappy Lee is as a Senator. He is 100% isolated. His name on any legislation is the kiss of death and his staff is incompetent and barely have 20



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years of collective experience in Washington DC by the 25 or so people on his staff. Read: less than 1 year experience among all his staffers because they spent the first 4 months last year not doing anything. Watching the applause he received at state convention was disgusting. Utahns deserve the truth. Fool me once...

1 week ago In reply to US2 2 Likes

Like Reply



farmer76

And to think this guy Tim's brother just had another dirty scandal break of his own (Chris Stewart). It all sounds fishy.

2 weeks ago 4 Likes

Like Reply



petragslezio

I hate dirty politics. LDS should know better that to engage in this sort of trash, but obviously some choose to ignore those Sunday School lessons.

2 weeks ago 4 Likes

Like Reply

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- The Movie Cricket
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- Utah Jazz
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- All Money
- Personal Finance
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- All Opinion
- Editorials
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## Rolly: Sen. Mike Lee backers embrace their former pariah

By paul roly | Tribune Columnist

First Published Mar 27 2012 07:19 pm • Last Updated Mar 28, 2012 02:38 pm

Chris Stewart, one of the gaggle of Republicans running for the open 2nd Congressional District seat, is basing his campaign on an ideology that blends Mormon sensibilities and good government.

He recently sent delegates his book, *Seven Miracles That Saved America*, which was endorsed by conservative Mormon radio talk-show host Glenn Beck.

That's funny, and here's why.

Chris Stewart is the brother of Tim Stewart, Washington lobbyist and longtime aide to former Sen. Bob Bennett who is credited with masterminding the infamous "Temple Mailer" during Bennett's re-election attempt two years ago that Mike Lee eventually won.

The mailer, from a group calling itself Utah Defenders of Constitutional Integrity, pictured Lee in front of an LDS temple and Bennett in front of the U.S. Capitol. Below, it asked, "Which candidate really has Utah values?"

The ad hurt Lee at the convention because some delegates were offended at the use of the church in a political smear.

### Photos



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Now, Tim Stewart's brother, Chris, is playing the religion card that his brother hoped to use to make Lee look like a fanatic. And while the Lee campaign considered Tim Stewart a pariah for what he did at the time, the Lee and Stewart camps now seem to be in sync.

Beck was an adamant Lee supporter two years ago. He is an adamant Stewart supporter now. At least two former campaign workers for Mike Lee have jumped onto the Chris Stewart bandwagon and two of Lee's federal employees are helping on the Stewart campaign.

Also, during the Republican primary two years ago, Lee attacked his opponent Tim Bridgewater, because Bridgewater consulted for Raser, a company that received stimulus money.

But Chris Stewart is the CEO of the Shipley Group, which consults government agencies on navigating through government regulations in the energy sector. Shipley received \$35,000 in stimulus funds. Tim, the old pariah of the Lee campaign, is a lobbyist for the Shipley Group.

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# Sextings get former Canyon Country worker in hot water

Published May 7, 2012 08:47:02PM

So just what have they been spiking that tea with lately?

Et tu, Brute? • When Liz Muniz asked Democratic Rep. Neal Hendrickson to nominate her to be a delegate at their precinct caucus meeting in their West Valley City neighborhood earlier this month, he was glad to comply. He also voted for her husband, Louie Muniz, and they were both elected as delegates.

Now, they will be two delegate votes against Hendrickson in the Democratic Convention.

After Liz Muniz was elected as a delegate, thanks to the help of Hendrickson, she filed to run against him in his legislative race.

Voter suppression in Provo • When several Brigham Young University students went to their Republican caucus in Provo's Precinct 3 on March 15, they attempted to register as Republicans so they could participate and vote for delegates and precinct leaders.

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Coach Clever

Mike Lee was exposed and Utahns still sent him to Washington. Obama was exposed and still made it to Washington. Something must be being added to our water supplies that limit brain functionality and common senses.

2 weeks ago 1 Like

Like Reply



daphne

I trust Mike Lee. I am basing my vote on people who's reputation and actions line up with Lee and Chaffetz. If Chris Stewart is that person, that's where my vote goes but I will not be using the Tribune for any factual information. Trusting the Tribune to guard conservatives against the proverbial wolf in sheep's clothing is as ridiculous as trusting the fox to guard the hen house.



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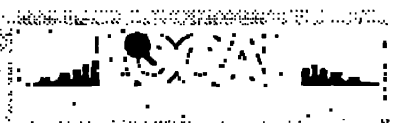
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13044340194

2 weeks ago

Like Reply



Lyn Peterson



Anyone that Glenn Beck supports is not for me

1 month ago 1 Like

Like Reply



Randy

"The woman, signing them in, however, tried to discourage them from registering. She told them that, if they registered, their parents would no longer be able to claim them as dependents on their income tax returns. One student was told he would forfeit his Pell Grant."

What an evil woman.

1 month ago 2 Likes

Like Reply



1gameplanner

Ten observations: 1) Rolly received a degree in Political Science not Journalism. 2) Chris Stewart's website doesn't mention anything about religion, just "sensibilities and good government." 3) Glenn Beck is Mormon? Whoa. "No way, that's great! We landed on the moon." 4) Chris has a brother named Tim that Rolly must not like. 5) Rolly likes the word periah. 6) Chris has another brother named Ted that co-wrote a few books with Chris that Rolly doesn't mention. Rolly may not have read the Stewart books, but Chuck Norris has. He was "inspired." Delegates may also be impressed. 8) The "winners" from the Mike Lee campaign now work with Chris. What options did they have in the "gaggle"? 9) Stimulus? \$1.4 billion. 10) "Chris, is playing the religion card." Go back to item #1

1 month ago 3 Likes

Like Reply



SorenK

You know what would be real journalism? For Rolly to come clean on the sources of his rumor-mongering. The people have a right to know.

1 month ago 2 Likes

Like Reply



TribSkeptic

As a huge Mike Lee supporter who was deeply offended by Tim Stewart's smear campaign two years ago, there is no way I could support his business partner and cohort Chris Stewart. Besides, Chris makes a living off getting Obama stimulus money? That's not the kind of conservative congressman I want representing my family.

1 month ago 2 Likes

Like Reply



SorenK

Absolutely right because we all know that brothers should be held accountable for each others sins.

1 month ago in reply to TribSkeptic 1 Like

Like Reply



contplan111

del

1 month ago in reply to TribSkeptic

Like Reply



mac5etar



"And he surely had nothing to do with the temple matter 'smear campaign,' and to suggest otherwise would be accusing a congressional candidate of a crime and would subject the commenter to a slander lawsuit."

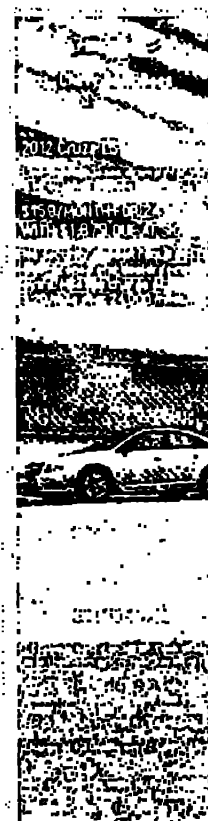
Spoken like an attorney through and through. I hope you're not billing anyone for writing these menacing, repetitive posts. And while you're at it, do some investigative research of your own on "spellcheck."

1 month ago in reply to contplan111

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13044340195

**Weber seizes computers / Campaign vendor for Davis candidate investigated over email** By Roy

Burton, Scott, Schwebke, Tim, Gurrister

Fri, 04/09/2010 - 10:43pm

**WEST POINT --** A search warrant was served Friday evening and several computers were seized from the home of a campaign vendor for Davis County sheriff's candidate Todd Richardson, says Weber County Attorney Dee Smith.

The computers taken from the West Point home of Randy Minson will likely be turned over to the Utah State Crime Lab for examination Monday as part of a probe of election-related e-mail, Smith said.

"I'm not going to say anything about potential charges now," he said. "We seized a number of computers that need to be analyzed."

The potential victim in the case would be the person who was the subject of the questionable e-mail, Smith said, but could include recipients of the e-mail.

He declined to identify the subject of the e-mail.

Minson did not return phone messages seeking comment Friday.

Richardson, a Davis County sheriff's deputy, is running against Solomon Oberg, a Bountiful police lieutenant, for the Republican nomination for sheriff at today's county convention.

Contacted Friday by the Standard-Examiner, Richardson said he was unaware of the warrant being served on Minson.

"That's nothing that I know of. That has nothing to do with my campaign. I'm sure if Weber County had a search warrant, they had probable cause to be there," Richardson said.

"The only thing (Minson) does for me is some printing of my signs, and any other little odds and ends stuff that I want to have printed, I go through him."

To avoid any appearance of a possible conflict of interest, Smith said, Davis County Attorney Troy Rawlings asked his office about two weeks ago to investigate complaints regarding a questionable election e-mail.

Smith said an investigator from his office is serving as lead detective.

Rawlings said the Davis County Attorney's Office, including bureau chief Craig Welb, is actively assisting in the investigation.

"Any decisions about prosecution will be made by Weber, but we're staying involved," Rawlings said.

Smith said computers in other residences besides Minson's could be looked at as part of the investigation, which is continuing.

"It's impossible to say how many may have received the e-mail," he said.

Oberg said Friday night that the e-mail contained slanderous and untrue allegations about him but declined to elaborate on the content or say who sent it out.

He contacted Rawlings, who was already aware of the e-mail.

"I've cooperated with the investigation," said Oberg, adding he didn't have any details about the search warrant executed at Minson's home.

Oberg said he has tried to center his campaign on the issues and is concerned that a search of Minson's home on the eve of today's convention will make it look like he is grandstanding.

"I'm concerned that what it's going to look like is a power play, and that is something I don't want to happen."

Source: Standard-Examiner <http://www.standard.net/topics/politics/2010/04/09/weber-seizes-computers-campaign-vendor-davis-candidate-investigated-over>

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## Criminal investigation of independent political consultant expands in Davis County

By Scott Schwabke [//authors/scott.schwabke](mailto://authors/scott.schwabke), Tim Gurrister [//authors/tim.gurrister](mailto://authors/tim.gurrister)

Tue, 06/01/2010 - 8:48am

### Images



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(<http://cdn3.standard.net/sites/default/files/imagecache/max-800/2010/05/29/story-30-minson-33019.jpg>)

The criminal investigation into political operative Brett Randall Minson's campaign tactics has widened and lawyers from one of the country's largest law firms are defending him.

On April 9, police seized four computers, two hard drives and a cell phone while serving a search warrant at the West Point home of Minson, a self-employed political consultant long involved in both state- and county-level issues.

The investigation has widened beyond its original scope of the Davis County Republican sheriff's race to include other races, some going back several years.

Investigators are looking into e-mail rumor mills that include allegations of bogus complaints to the state Police Academy about sexual misadventures in patrol cars and unfounded tales of bankruptcy.

Retiring Davis County Sheriff Bud Cox said he was contacted by the investigation over anonymous complaints made about him to the state police academy, also known as POST, during his 2006 re-election campaign. The complaints alleged sexual misconduct, Cox said, similar to alurs passed to the academy about Solomon Oberg.

Oberg met his bid at the April 18 Davis County Republican Convention for the nomination to replace Cox.

Like Oberg, Cox strongly denied the smears.

"I understand it was sex in a patrol car, something like that," Cox said of the allegations against him.

John Pitt finished third at the convention in the race for the legislative seat being vacated by Rep. Sheryl Allen, R-Bountiful. Pitt was endorsed by Allen. He is well known as a former two-term Bountiful city councilman and is also a former president of the Davis Chamber of Commerce.



Oberg lost his bid at the April 10 Davis County Republican Convention for the nomination to replace Cox.

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John Pitt finished third at the convention in the race for the legislative seat being vacated by Rep. Sheryl Allen, R-Bountiful. Pitt was endorsed by Allen. He is well known as a former two-term Bountiful city councilman and is also a former president of the Davis Chamber of Commerce.

Pitt has been contacted as part of the investigation.

"They found things there, things on his (Minson's) computer about me that were untrue," Pitt said. "It dealt with a bankruptcy I never filed."

#### GOP-on-GOP attacks

The political attacks appear to be Republican-on-Republican by the right wing of the party, with one source using the phrase "Taliban Republicans."

No charges have been filed against Minson, who has not returned numerous phone calls and other attempts to seek comment.

The investigation began when Oberg, a Bountiful police lieutenant, reported e-mail smears against him to the Davis County Attorney's Office. He was facing Todd Richardson, a Davis County sheriff's sergeant, for the party's nomination to replace Cox.

Oberg declined to divulge the content of the e-mail since an investigation is under way. "It would be irresponsible (to discuss it)," he told the Standard-Examiner.

Davis County moved the investigation to the Weber County Attorney's Office to avoid any appearance of conflict of interest, since prosecutors work closely with the sheriff's office.

Minson is represented by attorneys from the Chicago-based firm of Sidley and Austin, a team headed by Jay T. Jorgensen, a Brigham Young University alumni and Washington, D.C., partner in the firm that once employed President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle.

Sidley and Austin has 1,700 lawyers in 17 offices around the globe.

Jorgensen said his firm is representing Minson pro bono. "This case is very troubling to me," he said. "That's why we're involved."

Just a rumor?

He said his knowledge of the case is largely from Minson, who claims he was only passing on an e-mail rumor he heard.

"If armed officers were sent to his home because he passed on a rumor, they are totally in violation of the Constitution," Jorgensen said. "The whole point of the First Amendment is not to squelch that... discussing the news with neighbors, to pass along information. So we wonder if it's a political vendetta."

Jorgensen said clients, paying or pro bono, all receive the same service from the law firm -- a partner and two or three associates. The firm also has to employ a lawyer who is a member of the bar in the state of jurisdiction, he said, in this case former Utah County Attorney David Leavitt. Leavitt is the brother of Mike Leavitt, former Utah governor and cabinet member in the administration of President George W. Bush.

#### Claim denied

Davis County Attorney Troy Rawlings disputed Jorgensen's claim that the investigation is politically motivated.

"We do our litigation in court, not through the press," he said. "It's already been relayed to Jay that his assumptions are wrong. No matter who the defense attorney is they can't change the laws or the facts."

"Our office and the Weber County Attorney's Office can go toe-to-toe with anyone on how the law and the facts apply to a given case."

He dismissed Jorgensen's free-expression stance: "This case is not about the First Amendment."

Rawlings deferred further comment to Weber County Attorney Dee Smith, whose office is handling the investigation and who will decide whether any charges are to be filed.

"Two plain-clothes investigators executed the search warrant," Smith said in response to Jorgensen's characterization of the case, particularly the April 9 warrant at Minson's West Point home.

"The warrant was signed by a judge who found probable cause to support the warrant. Beyond that I'm not going to try the case in the media and won't comment any further."

#### Sealed affidavit

Farmington 2nd District Judge John R. Morris signed the warrant and has since sealed it and its accompanying affidavit.

Jorgensen said he's known Minson for years, meeting him in Republican political circles around 2002 when Jorgensen ran for Congress but was defeated in convention.

Jorgensen said neither he nor his client will comment further at this point in the proceedings.

"We are confident in Randy Minson's innocence and would love to discuss the issues surrounding this matter," he said. "However, out of deference to the court's secrecy order, we do not feel it appropriate to discuss anything that might be construed as violating that order."

Morris, in addition to sealing the warrant and its affidavit, has also sealed the investigative subpoenas and supporting documents generated by the investigation.

Jorgensen's page at [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) (<http://www.linkedin.com>), a social networking website, states he hired Minson in 2002.

"Randy is a top campaign consultant in Utah. He has a deep understanding of Utah's primary and general election process and years of experience working with all of the key individuals," Jorgensen said on his LinkedIn page endorsing Minson. "He is also extremely creative and hard-working. He masterfully crafts and disseminates a campaign message. I would recommend him to any top-notch candidate."

#### Long involvement

Minson has long been involved in Davis County Republican Party politics and has worked on many campaigns, said Allen, the current candidate for lieutenant governor on the Democratic ticket. Allen said she has never used Minson's services.

Layton Mayor Steve Curtis met with a Weber County detective regarding the e-mail about Oberg. Curtis said the e-mail mentions that he endorsed Oberg for sheriff.

"I don't have any ties to Minson other than supporting Sol," he said.

Richardson is now effectively sheriff-elect, since no Democrat filed for the office. He ran unsuccessfully against his boss, Cox, in 2002 and 2006.

#### Sheriff's race

Cox said Minson was heavily involved with Richardson in both of those campaigns, and he suspects Minson was behind some defamatory rumors about him. "His name doesn't mean anything really good to me," Cox said. "I can't prove anything, so I don't say much about it."

"I know he was involved in Todd's campaign both of those times. And I was the recipient of some pretty heavy stuff a time or two."

Richardson said he has been contacted by the investigation. Minson has been with his campaigns from 2002 on, he said, but he denied Cox's claim that Minson's wife was his campaign manager in 2006, and denies any knowledge of improprieties by Minson. Richardson said his wife has always been his campaign manager.

Minson helped with campaign mailers and general logistics, Richardson said.

"I've known Randy a long time" Richardson said. "It would kind of surprise me to think he would do anything like this."

"My whole goal is to be cooperative with the investigation and make sure they have any information I have," he said.

Minson wasn't as involved in his current campaign as in the past, Richardson said, because of work he was doing on another campaign.

Richardson was scheduled for a face-to-face meeting with an investigator in the Minson probe May 12, but hasn't returned phone calls seeking comment since that date.

POST Deputy Director Kelly Sparks said he had considered running this year for Davis County Sheriff, but decided the timing wasn't right. He said he knows of Minson, but doesn't recall ever talking to him.

Sparks said his decision not to run came after consultation with family and friends, and not in reaction to anything else.

Contacted by the investigation, Sparks said he was told "they (Minson's camp) were devising a way to keep me from running, or to defeat me if I did run. They didn't give me any more detail than that. I would like to know at some time. I'm kind of dying to know myself."

Information gathered so far by the investigation has come only from Minson's cell phone and through interviews.

Data is still to come from the four computers and the two hard drives in the hands of the Utah State Crime Lab for examination.

Prosecutors have issued a subpoena to Minson's cell phone provider. They hope to recover data they believe Minson deleted from his cell phone the night the search warrant was executed at his home.

This topic is being discussed at [The Weber County Forum](http://www.weberforum.blogspot.com) (<http://www.weberforum.blogspot.com>).

## Tags

### Topics (/tagadellc/chunk/3)

- [Crime \(/topics/crime\)](#)
- [Politics \(/topics/politics\)](#)

### Authors (/tagadellc/chunk/4)

# The Salt Lake Tribune

## Consultant sues Buck, claims unpaid bills

Politics • U.S. House candidate, ex-NFLer says complaint is dirty politics.

By david montero

The Salt Lake Tribune

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Jason Buck, a candidate for Utah's 2nd Congressional District, is being sued for more than \$19,500 by a local consulting firm that alleges the former BYU and NFL football player failed to pay for materials and services provided to his campaign.

The lawsuit, filed April 9 in 3rd District Court, claims that Buck sought the firm's services in August and had paid only \$500 to date. In court documents, the Salt Lake City-based Letter 23 agency included five invoices — each totalling \$4,000 — that it says were ignored by Buck.

Christopher Jessop, the lawyer representing Letter 23 in the case, said he wouldn't comment on pending litigation.

But Buck said the firm provided very little of what it promised, and he fired the company in December. He also said Letter 23 Manager Kelly Casaday was working for another candidate in the race — Eureka Mayor Milton Hanks — and that the lawsuit is an attempt to sabotage the campaign.

"We're 100,000 percent above board," Buck said. "He's played every dirty trick he can."

Casaday said he's offered only free advice to Hanks, and won't provide any materials until Hanks signs a contract and pays up front.

"We learned our lesson after working with Jason," Casaday said.



Paul Fraughton | Tribune file photo Jason Buck, candidate for the 2nd Congressional District, says a lawsuit filed against him is dirty politics.

However, according to Federal Election Commission reports, Hanks has raised no money, spent no money and doesn't appear to even have an operating website for his campaign.

Buck said he chose Letter 23 because he was impressed with its presentation and promises when he was looking for political pros to launch his bid.

But by December, he said, "they'd only delivered about 10 percent of what they promised us." He said he went to other consultants to find out if his campaign was getting good services.

"They said you've got to get this straightened out right now and let them go," Buck said. "They said for them to only offer this much, you've got to fire them."

Casaday said he's been doing political consulting for 20 years. He said he'd made good-faith efforts to collect from Buck, and he disputed Buck's claim that services weren't provided as promised.

Buck said he has since hired a consulting firm in California to help with the campaign.

Buck has twice filed for bankruptcy, most recently in 2010, and had been entangled in some Ponzi schemes in which he said he was as much a victim as investors whom he'd helped recruit.

According to the latest FEC filings, Buck raised \$137,506 as of April 1, and has \$8,964 cash on hand.

Buck is part of a crowded field of Republicans seeking to nab the party nomination at the state Republican Convention on April 21.

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